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AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

THE visit of the Emperor of Austria to Pesth has brought forward again the Hungarian question, which still seems to us quite insoluble, though it is evident that a solution is now earnestly desired on both sides. For the last fourteen or fifteen years Austria has maintained an attitude of menace towards Hungary, and Hungary one of passive resistance towards Austria. The Hungarians have positively refused to have anything to do with a German Parliament, and the Austrians, to punish them for not coming to the Reichsrath, have imposed military government upon them. Both Hungary and Austria have suffered from this state of

things. The former has been ruled like a conquered country, while the latter has been impeded at every step in its domestic and foreign policy by a feeling of insecurity caused by the disaffection of the largest, most populous, and most warlike of the various kingdoms and provinces which, together, make up the Austrian Empire. During the Emperor's stay at Pesth many civilities have been exchanged between his Majesty and the representatives of the Hungarian nobility, and it is certain that the Hungarian Diet will shortly be convoked. Already enough has been done to alarm both the Ministerial party at Vienna—who would force Hungary to send representatives to the Reichsrath or

leave her without representation at all—and the extreme party among the Hungarians, who desire nothing less than absolute separation from the Austrian Crown and the reconstruction of Hungary into an independent kingdom—or, better still, a republic. There is at least a chance of some arrangement being brought about, but it is a very slight one. Of course, the Emperor of Austria does not wish any portion of his subjects to rise in arms against his authority, and it is natural that he should desire to secure, not merely the cessation of passive resistance, but the actual support of the Hungarian people. But he took steps towards this end in 1861, when the Diet was convoked, without any



THE NEW AQUARIUM AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

good result, the members refusing absolutely to elect deputies to sit in the Central Chamber at Vienna. The Diet is now to meet again, and it is certain that, at present, as in 1861, deputies will not be chosen to take their places in the Reichsrath side by side with Germans, Poles, Ruthenians, and Bohemians. The Hungarians, in fact, are willing to do anything except contribute their assigned quota of members to the Imperial Legislature. The Austrian Emperor is their King, but the Austrian empire is not their country, and they have no inclination to unite their fate to that of the numerous and remarkably heterogeneous nationalities which, according to the new Imperial system, are to be fused together through their representatives in Parliament assembled.

The Austrian Emperor, on the other hand, is also willing to make concessions, but on the sole condition that the Hungarians, instead of keeping themselves aloof from the rest of the empire, shall send deputies to take part in the discussions and deliberations of the Reichsrath. Here, then, is the difficulty which seems to us insuperable—the Hungarians will do everything to prove their loyalty to the Emperor except consenting to be represented in the Reichsrath; while the Emperor will do everything to prove his good will towards his Hungarian subjects except allowing them to legislate for themselves in their ancient Hungarian Diet—for what is now called the Hungarian Diet is only a provincial assembly, possessing no political powers, except the uncared-for right to depute members to debate on the politics of the whole empire at Vienna.

The conditions on which the Hungarians would make peace with the Austrian Government seem moderate enough when considered from a Hungarian point of view, but they are unacceptable all the same. They do not object to supply the Austrian army with a fair proportion of recruits; they are quite ready to take upon themselves a just share of the Austrian debt; but they insist upon having their own finance department, and of having no Ministers in common with the rest of the empire except the War Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Entry into the Reichsrath is, of course, not to be thought of; and that being the case, the whole project of reconciliation between Hungary and Austria, as it seems to us, falls to the ground.

The revolutionists in all parts of Europe will be much grieved, as the friends of good government and of peace will be rejoiced, if an understanding between Hungary and the Austrian Government should really be arrived at. For the present is a very critical moment in the history of Hungary. That country, so long in a state of sullen discontent, has now been thrown into a state of great excitement. Hopes have been raised which it is more than possible will not be gratified; and if the Hungarian Diet, now about to be convoked, should find its propositions to the Crown rejected and, as in 1861, should be dissolved, then it is to be feared that a strong current of anti-Austrian feeling will set in, by which even the most moderate among the Hungarians may gradually be carried away. Every one who has studied the physiognomy of European institutions, so plentiful since the year 1848, must have observed how often the moderate party in a population of malcontents suffers itself to be led from observation to action by the extreme party. The Hungarians have, hitherto, given proofs of political wisdom by discountenancing, as a nation, the attempts that a few sworn revolutionists among them have made to provoke an appeal to arms. But, if it should now appear once more that to bring about a good understanding between Hungary and the Austrian Government is impossible, the slightest agitation in Venetia would at once be a sign for a commotion in Hungary; and another Hungarian insurrection, disastrous as it might be for Austria, would in all probability be fatal to the Hungarians themselves. If England would not interfere to save Poland from Russia, or Denmark from Prussia, is it probable that she would go to war with her old ally, Austria, for the sake of Hungary? It may be said that the Hungarians alone could beat the Austrians; and this, if they once found means to get an army together, they probably would do, as they did in 1848 and 1849. But it is tolerably certain that if the Austrians were beaten they would once more call upon the Russians to assist them; and the principle of non-intervention (according to the vulgar and erroneous, but exceedingly popular, interpretation of that much-abused expression) would forbid us to do more than protest against such a step.

There would be this difference, however, between the effect of the Russian intervention of 1849 and that of a Russian intervention in the present day. In 1849 the Russians asked nothing from the Austrians in return for the services rendered by them. In 1865 they would only help the Austrians to reconquer Hungary on condition of a cession of territory being made to them. Previously to 1848 Austria had, since the Treaty of Vienna, been as staunch a friend to Russia as even Prussia herself; but since the intervention of Russia in Hungary, Austria has twice been guilty of the "immense ingratitude" by which Prince Metternich had prophesied that she would and must one day distinguish herself. She failed to assist Russia during the Crimean War, and she aimed despatches at her during the Polish insurrection. Russia is not likely to forgive this "treachery," as she, no doubt, considers it. We believe that, in the event of the Hungarians rising in arms, she would not leave Austria to take care of herself. She would help her to put down the insurrection, but she would demand payment for doing so. Thus she might restore Hungary to Austria on condition of receiving Eastern Galicia—a province, or half province, which she has long coveted, and of which a portion was actually made over to her by Napoleon, in 1809, and remained in her possession until the great European settlement

after the fall of Bonaparte. Prussia helped materially to put down the Polish insurrection of 1863, and was afterwards allowed by Russia to seize a portion of Denmark on which Russia herself had remote claims. If Russia assists Austria a second time in suppressing a Hungarian insurrection, it will be to Austria that she will look for her indemnity.

THE AQUARIUM AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

AQUARIUMS, aparies, aviaries, fern-cases, and similar constructions, have of late years, on a larger or smaller scale, become ordinary ornaments in most households, and very great improvements have been made in the construction and arrangement of such homes for the finny, the feathered, the insect, and the vegetable tribes. But, perhaps, the most perfect thing of the kind is the aquarium lately completed in the Crystal Palace. The structure is a polygon of considerable size, with a clear walk round, and the cases containing the fish arranged on each side. The roof is of timber painted black, the base or body of the edifice of the substance known in the building trade as "compo." In this there are on each side of the passage glass cases filled with beautiful specimens of gold and silver fish, chub, bream, carp, perch, and various mongrel or variegated varieties, mingled in such a way as to produce a very fine effect by the contrast of their different colours, which is immensely heightened by the intense light which is thrown in upon them from above; while below, and in the circular passage round the structure, there is deep shadow. Besides the fish, of course, the cases are filled with rockwork, shells, sand, and different kinds of water-plants, all of which contribute to the very pleasing effect produced. The pleasure of witnessing the gambols of the finny tenants of the cases, which is a very favourite pastime with visitors, is increased by the fact that the cases containing the fish are all rather above the level of the eye, and that, consequently, no stooping or peering into the depths of a pond, is necessary in order to observe all that is going on within. The large size of some of the specimens in the cases might lead to the idea that the glass magnifies; but this is not the case, the fish appearing exactly their actual size. The aquarium is so constructed as to secure a continual stream of water flowing through it, and has likewise little jets or fountains constantly playing, which at once contribute to the healthfulness of the tenants and impart an idea of refreshing coolness to the whole structure. Altogether, a more admirably contrived and interesting exhibition than the Crystal Palace Aquarium can scarcely be conceived. Besides those in the aquarium, the ponds in the centre of the building are alive with gold, silver, and other descriptions of fish, which, darting about among the opening flowers of the great water-lily and other plants, with their bright-coloured fins flashing in the sun's rays, produce an exceedingly pleasing and picturesque effect.

The directors have also had a fish-hatching apparatus in operation in the building, and have succeeded in producing from the ova numerous fine and healthy specimens of salmon, trout, &c. There has likewise been recently added to the attractions of the Palace a very fine chimpanzee, which is about 3 ft. in height, is a native of the west coast of Africa, and is supposed to be about two years of age. This strange caricature of humanity is evidently a fellow with a strong sense of humour, and enjoys a romp with the intelligent young man in whose charge he is placed with infinite zest. He has been supplied with an artificial tree, a rope, and a trapeze, and swings and leaps about, after the manner of Leotard, with great agility; and when he succeeds in eluding the pretended chase of his keeper, chuckles and laughs with immense glee.

The arrangements for the Great Handel Festival, on the 26th, 28th, and 30th inst., may now be said to be complete. The metropolitan rehearsals have now been all got through; the country choros, selected from the chief provincial societies and cathedral choirs, have all been engaged for some weeks past, and the superintendents of the Sacred Harmonic Society have recently been engaged in tours of inspection in the provincial districts. The instrumentalists will include nearly the entire bands of both Italian Opera companies, and the most talented English and foreign performers available. There will be upwards of 400 performers on stringed instruments alone, including seventy-five double-basses; while the vocalists will number several thousands. Mr. Costa will be conductor. The great full rehearsal is fixed for Friday, the 23rd, at one o'clock, and the festival itself, as we have said, for the 26th, 28th, and 30th, at three. The arrangements made for the accommodation of visitors are very perfect, and are likely to give much satisfaction. Two hundred gentlemen have undertaken to act as stewards, and on each day will, as heretofore, conduct visitors to their allotted seats in the respective blocks. Some months ago the directors entered into contracts for 10,000 additional chairs, which have now nearly all been delivered at the Palace.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor returned to Paris on Saturday evening. The Empress and the young Prince were in the carriage with his Majesty, who looked remarkably well and robust. A large number of persons assembled to receive him, and gave him a very cordial welcome. Prince Napoleon was not present. A debate in the Corps Legislatif on the Mexican question, very ably conducted on both sides, has ended in a tremendous majority for the Government. The Cabinet, however, has sustained a decided and somewhat significant defeat in the same chamber. In the Committee on the Budget a vote of six million francs was proposed for a new post-office. This vote was opposed by M. Segré, an Imperialist, who was supported by many of the habitual defenders of all Government measures; and after a discussion, in which it was shown that the proposed change of site was both unnecessary and inexpedient, the House rejected the vote without a division.

The resignation of Prince Napoleon of the vice-presidency of the Privy Council and the presidency of the Exhibition Commission has been accepted by the Emperor.

Preparations are being made at Toulon for another trial of a new electric infernal machine, by which, it is stated, iron-clad vessels can be instantaneously destroyed.

ITALY.

Signor Vegezzi has had two conferences at Rome with Cardinal Antonelli, and his negotiations with the Papal Government seem likely to terminate successfully. The Pope assembled the Cardinals and informed them that his proposals respecting the Italian episcopacy had been favourably received by King Victor Emmanuel, General Della Marmora, and Signor Lanza, but were opposed by Signor Natoli.

It is asserted that his Holiness has remitted funds to Paris for the payment of that portion of the debt appertaining to the former Pontifical provinces now united to Italy.

An agent of Juarez is reported to be in Turin endeavouring to enlist officers and men who formerly served under Garibaldi for the service of the Mexican President against Maximilian and the French. It is asserted, however, that the chiefs of the party of action have rejected his advances.

AUSTRIA.

The Emperor returned to Vienna on the 9th inst. His Majesty, in an autograph letter of thanks to Count von Palffy, Governor of Hungary, states that he has been greatly moved by the sincere proofs of affection afforded him upon all sides. In conclusion, the Emperor expresses the hope of soon returning to Pesth to complete the pleasing task which all have at heart. He has also signed a decree ordering the suppression of military tribunals for the trial of offences committed by civilians in Hungary.

PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Government is anxious to clear itself from the imputation of having allowed the Danes in North Schleswig to be

harshly treated. It has therefore published a copy of the instructions forwarded in the middle of last month to its civil commissioner in the duchies, directing that the fullest personal investigation should be made to ascertain whether any hardships had been suffered by Danish Schleswigers, in order that, if any cause of complaint should be found to exist, instant redress might be given.

A discussion took place in the Chamber on Tuesday, when Herr Wagner moved that "the Government be requested to endeavour to bring about the annexation of the duchies to Prussia, even by indemnifying, if necessary, any claimant to their possession." On this motion Herr von Bismarck said:—"The programme for the solution of the question of the duchies, as proposed, has been completely carried out except the installation of the Prince of Augustenberg as Duke of Schleswig-Holstein. This can take place any day upon the Prince proving his hereditary right to the duchies, which he has up to the present time failed to do. In a conversation with me last year, his Highness rejected the moderate demands of Prussia, and expressed himself as follows:—'Why did you come to the duchies? We did not call you. Matters would have been settled without Prussia.' Annexation to Prussia is the best thing for Schleswig-Holstein, but there is no prospect of its accomplishment on account of the large debts for which it would be necessary for Prussia to render herself liable. After the refusal of our moderate demands by the Prince of Augustenberg, we shall be justified in subsequently increasing them."

GREECE.

The King of Greece opened the National Assembly, on the 9th inst., in a speech from the Throne. Among other matters, his Majesty announced that his Government was engaged in an arrangement for the payment of the loan of 1832, guaranteed by the Powers.

THE UNITED STATES.

GENERAL NEWS.

We have news from New York to the 3rd inst.

General Kirby Smith had surrendered to General Canby on the same terms as had been granted to General Lee. The surrender includes the whole of the Confederacy across the Mississippi, so that the Federal Government has not an enemy left in the field.

The Government, notwithstanding the surrender of General Kirby Smith, had dispatched an extensive military and naval expedition, fitted out at Fortress Monroe, to Texas.

Mr. Davis had been transferred to the Capitol Prison, at Washington. He was to be tried by the District Supreme Court, under the presidency of Judge Carter. It was reported that President Johnson had given permission to Charles O'Connor to defend Mr. Davis.

Ex-Secretary Mallory, of the Confederate Navy, and General Howell Cobb, of Georgia, under guard, passed through Chattanooga, en route to Nashville, on the 29th ult.

General Longstreet had received permission from President Johnson to visit Washington on personal business.

The Military Commission which tried Senator Harris, of Maryland, had declared him "Guilty," and sentenced him to three years imprisonment and forfeiture of all political rights. President Johnson approved the finding, but remitted the sentence.

The day appointed by President Johnson for national mourning for the death of President Lincoln was observed throughout the North by general suspension of business and the exercise of religious services.

An abstract of General Sherman's report to General Grant, animadverting in strong terms against the conduct of Halleck and Stanton towards him, had been published. Halleck had been since superseded by Thomas, and it was believed that Stanton would have to retire from the Cabinet.

In consequence of frequent quarrels and disturbances between intoxicated officers and soldiers in Washington, General Grant had prohibited all sales of liquors in the city while the armies remain in its vicinity.

Secretary Seward had rescinded the order requiring persons from foreign countries entering the United States by sea to be provided with passports.

The Washington agent of the Associated Press announces that the Government has under consideration the question of colonising all the Indian tribes between Minnesota and Iowa and the Rocky Mountains on a reservation somewhere on the northern border of Montana and Wakota, with the British possessions adjoining for an unlimited hunting-ground.

A party of Mexican emigrants, connected with the barque Brontes, had been arrested at San Francisco, charged with conspiring to seize the Peruvian steamer Colon and put her to sea as a Mexican privateer. The plan contemplated the seizure of a French transport.

In the Senate of the Tennessee Legislature a bill had been passed defining the qualifications of a voter. He must be a white male citizen, twenty-one years of age. It excludes from free suffrage all over twenty-one who aided the rebellion.

The World states that Admiral Goldsborough's fleet of thirty to sixty vessels, comprising the Ironsides and two double-turreted Monitors, will leave for the Mediterranean in the beginning of July next.

AMNESTY PROCLAMATION.

On the 30th of May the following proclamation by President Johnson was published in the American papers:—

Washington, May 29, 1865.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES—A PROCLAMATION.
Whereas the President of the United States, on the 8th day of December, A.D. 1863, and on the 26th day of March, A.D. 1864, did, with the object to suppress the existing rebellion, to induce all persons to return to their loyalty, and to restore the authority of the United States, issue proclamations offering amnesty and pardon to certain persons who had, directly or by implication, participated in the said rebellion; and whereas many persons who had so engaged in said rebellion have, since the issuance of said proclamation, failed or neglected to take the benefits offered thereby; and whereas many persons who have been justly deprived of all claim to amnesty and pardon thereunder by reason of their participation, directly or by implication, in said rebellion, and continued hostility to the Government of the United States since the date of said proclamation, now desire to apply for and obtain amnesty and pardon: To the end, therefore, that the authority of the Government of the United States may be restored, and that peace, order, and freedom may be established, I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do proclaim and declare that I hereby grant to all persons who have, directly or indirectly, participated in the existing rebellion, except as hereinafter excepted, amnesty and pardon, with the restoration of all rights of property, except as to slaves, and except in cases where legal proceedings under the laws of the United States provided for the confiscation of property of persons engaged in rebellion have been instituted; but on the condition, nevertheless, that every such person shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation, and thenceforward keep and maintain said oath inviolate, and which oath shall be registered for permanent preservation, and shall be of the tenor and effect following: to wit:

"I, —, do solemnly swear or affirm, in the presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Union of the States thereunder; and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all laws and proclamations which have been made during the existing rebellion with reference to the emancipation of slaves. So help me God."

The following classes of persons are exempted from the benefits of this proclamation:—

1. All who are, or shall have been, pretended civil or diplomatic officers, or otherwise, domestic or foreign agents of the pretended Confederate Government.
2. All who left judicial stations under the United States to aid the rebellion.
3. All who shall have been military or naval officers of the said pretended Confederate Government, above the rank of colonel in the army or lieutenant in the navy.
4. All who left seats in the Congress of the United States to aid the rebellion.
5. All who resigned or tendered resignations of their commissions in the army or navy of the United States to evade duty in resisting the rebellion.
6. All who have engaged in any way in treating otherwise than lawfully as prisoners of war persons found in the United States service as officers, soldiers, seamen, or in other capacities.
7. All persons who have been or are absentees from the United States for the purpose of aiding the rebellion.
8. All military and naval officers in the rebel service who were educated by the Government in the Military Academy at West Point or the United States Naval Academy.

9. All persons who held the pretended offices of Governors of States in insurrection against the United States.

10. All persons who left their homes within the jurisdiction and protection of the United States and passed beyond the Federal military lines into the so-called Confederate States for the purpose of aiding the rebellion.

11. All persons who have been engaged in the destruction of the commerce of the United States upon the high seas; and all persons who have made raids into the United States from Canada, or been engaged in destroying the commerce of the United States upon the lakes and rivers that separate the British Provinces from the United States.

12. All persons who, at the time when they seek to obtain the benefits hereof by taking the oath herein prescribed, are in the military, naval, or civil confinement or custody, or under bonds of the civil, military, or naval authorities or agents of the United States, as prisoners of war, or persons detained for offences of any kind, either before or after conviction.

13. All persons who have voluntarily participated in said rebellion, and the estimated value of whose taxable property is over twenty thousand dollars.

14. All persons who have taken the oath of amnesty as prescribed in the President's proclamation of Dec. 8, A.D. 1863, or an oath of allegiance to the Government of the United States, since the date of such proclamation, and who have not thenceforward kept and maintained the same inviolate:

Provided, That special application may be made to the President for pardon by any person belonging to the excepted classes, and such clemency will be liberally extended, as may be consistent with the facts of the case and the peace and dignity of the United States.

The Secretary of State will establish rules and regulations for administering and recording the said amnesty oath so as to ensure its benefit to the people and guard the Government against fraud.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Dated at the City of Washington, the twenty-ninth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-ninth.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

MEXICO.

Official despatches received in Paris, from Mexico, announce that the Jurist bands have been everywhere beaten by the Imperialists. In several States the inhabitants are organising for the defence of their persons and property.

DAHOMEY.

Intelligence has been received in Madrid that the King of Dahomey had been compelled to fly from his capital, but had subsequently returned. He was preparing to take retaliatory measures, and had redoubled his cruelties.

GREAT DEFEAT OF THE RUSSIANS IN KHOKAN.

By advices from Tiflis of the 17th ult. we learn that the progress of the Russian arms in Central Asia has just received a serious check. Hitherto everything had favoured the progress of General Endokimoff, whose successes were as much due to the exertions of Prince Gortschakoff as to the military talents of the generals of the Czar. Having made friends of the important population belonging to the Khanat of Khokan, called Kaissans, General Endokimoff carried his army of 40,000 or 50,000 infantry, with a proportionate force of cavalry and artillery, into these districts of Central Asia, knowing well how far he could count upon this people. By this means, on the side of Lake Aral, the Russians, without striking a blow, obtained possession of the fortress of Akmedjid, a place of great strategic importance near the mouth of the Sir-Darid. They claimed the fortress as having been sold to them by the late Khan of Khokan, now in exile at Bokhara, Kosadair Khan. On the side of Turkistan the Russians, after a fifteen days' march, advanced to Hadja-Ahmed, the Tesak of the Russians, and thence, after another march of six days, they reached the fortress of Tchinkett, otherwise known as Tounkat, a place only three or four days' march from Tachkend. This progress the Russians made without firing a shot.

The great object of the late march of the Russians has been to obtain possession of the town of Tachkend, as occupying a point strategically the most favourable to their views, being on one side the key to the Khanat of Khokan, and on the other seriously threatening the Khanat of Bokhara, if the latter ventured to offer any assistance to the former. General Endokimoff, after his march of twenty-one days, was able to arrive almost at the gates of Tchinkett, and he attempted to obtain possession of the place with the future view of the occupation of Tachkend. He imagined, it would seem, that the Khokanese commander would at once open the gates, and little anticipated that, in place of an easy conquest, he would find the Regent of Khokan—the Emir Mera-Ali Khan!—at the head of a numerous force, ready to oppose him.

The Russian General, seeing the place in a perfect state of defence, with a battery of fifty cannon, gave up all idea of attacking it, and gave battle instead to the Emir. The conflict was a bloody one, and ended in the defeat of the Russians, who were compelled to fall back upon Hadja Ahmed with a precipitancy which amounted to a flight. The Khokanese had about 1000 killed and wounded, and the Russians, it is said, about four times that number. No doubt General Endokimoff will endeavour, at the earliest opportunity, to retrieve this disaster, but it will be difficult for him to take Tchinkett, not only on account of the strength of the place, but of the spirit of the inhabitants, which is now thoroughly roused.

THE INDICTMENT AGAINST EX-PRESIDENT DAVIS.—The indictment against Mr. Jefferson Davis for treason is of great length. In substance it is as follows:—"The grand jury of Washington present that Jefferson Davis, late of the county of Henrico, in the State of Virginia, yeoman, being an inhabitant of and resident in the United States of America, and owing allegiance and fidelity to said States, not having the fear of God before his eyes and weighing the duty of his allegiance, but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the devil, wickedly devising and disturbing the peace and tranquillity of the United States, to disturb the Government of the said States and to excite rebellion, insurrection, and war against them, on the 1st of June, 1864, in the State of Virginia, with force and arms, unlawfully, falsely, maliciously, and traitorously did compass and intend to raise, levy, and carry on war, insurrection, and rebellion against the said States, for the subversion of the Government thereof, in the county of Washington aforesaid, and within the jurisdiction of this court. And, in order to fulfil and bring to effect the said traitorous intentions, Jefferson Davis, on the 15th of June, 1864, being leagued in conspiracy with a large number of insurgents and false traitors, and being their leader and commander-in-chief, and recognised and obeyed by them as such in the prosecution of open war against the States for the subversion of the Government thereof, did unlawfully, &c., order and command a great multitude of the said insurgents and false traitors to march and proceed in a warlike manner from the State of Virginia to the county of Washington, unlawfully, &c., to levy and carry on war against the United States for the subversion of the Government thereof; and did provide them with horses, wagons, ambulances, warlike weapons, ammunition, and provisions for their subsistence while so carrying on war against the United States in the county of Washington. And afterward, on the 12th of July, 1864, the said insurgents and false traitors, in obedience to the said order and command of Jefferson Davis, with the said horses, &c., provided by him, and being divided into companies and regiments, did march into and invade the county of Washington, and with force of arms array and dispose themselves in battle against the United States for the subversion of the Government thereof; and by means of the weapons and ammunition so provided and supplied by Jefferson Davis did attack and make war upon Fort Stevens, then used and occupied by the military forces of the United States, and did attack, assault, and make war upon the troops of the United States there assembled, and kill and wound a large number—to wit, 500 of them. And so the jurors upon their oath do say that, then and there, and within the jurisdiction of the Court, in pursuance of his traitorous inclinations, imaginings, and purposes, Jefferson Davis, with the insurgents so traitorously assembled, armed, and arrayed, most wickedly, maliciously, and traitorously did ordain, prepare, levy, and carry on war against the United States of America, for the subversion of the Government thereof, contrary to the duty of his allegiance and fidelity, against the Constitution, peace, and Government of the United States of America, and against the statute in such case made and provided."

KARSANDAS MULJI.

PEOPLE in Europe have little idea of the religious controversies which distract the various sects of Hindoos in India; and probably most of our readers will now hear for the first time of the doings of the Mahárájas, and of their exposure by Karsandas Mulji, a portrait of whom accompanies this article, and who was born about the year 1834, is of the Banian caste, and was brought up in the Vallabhacharya sect, some account of whose history, tenets, and practices will be found in another column. On attaining the years of discretion, he soon perceived the immense divergence between the tenets of his sect and the doctrines of the ancient Hindoo religion, and began to think seriously of reform. Perceiving that the authority exercised by the Mahárájas, the high priests of his sect, having no other support than hereditary superstition, maintained, too, by craft and cunning, could never stand against the light of truth, he patiently waited for an occasion when he could raise an outcry and provoke controversy and debate. The desired opportunity arrived. In 1855 the Gujurati Brahmins in Bombay, wishing to make an offering to Siva of Chhapanbhoga (fifty-six kinds of consecrated food), commenced a subscription for the purpose. The food was offered at the shrine of the idol, and widely distributed amongst the Brahmins. The Mahárájas contended that the food was holy and ought not to have been partaken of by the Brahmins. The dispute led to newspaper controversy, and

much healthy discussion took place; and it was at this period that Karsandas Mulji struck his first blow against the Mahárájas by publishing a weekly newspaper, called the *Satya Prakash* (Light of Truth), in which he denounced and exposed the corruption and immorality of the sect. Being conducted by a Vaishnava, the Mahárájas were peculiarly sensitive to its censure, and tried every means of silencing the writer; but the reformer was too much in earnest to pay any attention to either threats or bribes.

The opposition paper, the *Chabak*, whilst advocating the cause of the Mahárájas, personally abused some of the reforming party, one of whom, in indignation, commenced an action for damages. The Mahárájas, on being subpoenaed as witnesses, endeavoured to evade the subpoena by claiming exemption from attending courts of justice, on the ground that a Mahárája is defiled by contact with Europeans. They even framed a document which was called by the reformers the "Slavery Bond." Karsandas Mulji says, "The temples were closed for a week to force parties to sign the bond, and the person signing it bound himself not to write anything against the Mahárájas nor attempt to procure their attendance at the Supreme Court. One of its objects was to excommunicate me." Nothing daunted, however, he wrote a long article reprehending the several clauses of the bond, which created a great sensation, and urged the contest of discussion to its highest pitch. He argued that the Mahárájas, who were afraid of being defiled in a court of justice, had no objection to mix with Europeans on other occasions, and proved that they went to see the Dockyard and the Mint, and travelled on the railways. The excitement was intense, and not only the *Satya Prakash* but the press generally freely ventilated the subject of the crimes and errors of the sect.

The Mahárájas, perceiving that they could not silence Karsandas by threats of excommunication, or prevent the public press from exposing their misdeeds, attempted to attain their object by other means. Jadunáthji Brizatanji, an influential Mahárája of Surat, having consulted with his followers as to whether an action for libel brought by him against the publishers could be prosecuted in his absence from the court, arrived in Bombay about the middle of 1860. The young reformer, unaware of the object of the Mahárája's visit, having heard that he had established a school at Surat, gave him a hearty welcome in his paper. One of the reformer's friends invited the Mahárája to hold a public discussion on the subject of the re-marriage of Hindoo widows, to which he (the Mahárája) was opposed. Being worsted in the controversy, Jadunáthji asserted that the principles of the reform party were adverse to the ancient religion of the Hindoos. Of course, Karsandas took up the subject in his paper, and invited the Mahárája to discuss the matter through the medium of the press. The discussion was carried on in several issues of the paper. Such popular interest was excited that the Mahárája himself issued a monthly magazine, and the discussion grew very spirited. On Oct. 21, 1860, Karsandas wrote an article in his paper which, owing to its consequences, has made his name famous in India. It contained a thorough exposure of the sect, and argued in favour of the primitive Hindoo religion. Jadunáthji, whose name was mentioned frequently in the article, at first maintained silence on the subject; but, on the 14th of May—seven months after its publication—he filed an action of libel against both editor and printer. The plaintiff being demurred to by defendant's counsel, the plaintiff had to make certain amendments. Then the defendant pleaded several pleas, the first being that of not guilty; that the article was not libellous; and the last that of justification; that what was stated in the article was true. The managers of the Mahárája's case, knowing, from the nature of these pleas, that the defendant was prepared to bring forward witnesses, communicated to the influential portion of the community the danger that might result from the exposure; and the Bhárájis convened a meeting of their caste on the 6th of September, 1861, and resolved that none of the caste should give evidence against the Mahárája. This only, however, tended to damage their cause, for it enabled Karsandas to bring an accusation of conspiracy against them. Two persons had to pay a penalty of 1000 rupees each, while eight others were fined fifty rupees each. This increased the popular excitement, and created an immense sensation. Karsandas, on leaving the court, was severely assaulted, and had to solicit the protection of the magistrates. He would most undoubtedly have been killed but for the energetic measures of the superintendent of police. The trial of the libel case came on before the Court on the 26th of January, 1862; it extended over forty days, and was twenty-four days before the Court. There were about thirty witnesses on each side. The Court was crowded, and the interest was intense. The Mahárájas suffered a complete exposure; the plaintiff and his witnesses were stigmatised by the Court as unworthy of belief even on their oaths, and the Indian press teemed with articles expressive of disgust at the enormities which were brought to light. The verdict was entered by the Court in favour of the defendant on the main issue of justification (with costs), and for the plaintiff on the first plea of not guilty (without costs). The total expenses on both sides are said to have reached 60,000 rupees, of which about 50,000 fell upon the Mahárája, which, curiously enough, was the sum for which he had sued Karsandas as damages. The verdict was received with almost universal favour, and Karsandas Mulji was congratulated warmly by the Indian press. He is still young, and has much work before him. May he live for many years to prosecute his enterprise!

AN ITALIAN PORTRAIT.

VISITORS to the Exhibition of the Royal Academy who have afterwards, by way of relaxation, turned in to the National Gallery, must surely, if they have happened to direct their attention to the portraits, have experienced a sense of disappointment that in this branch of art, at least, we have fallen so far behind the old masters. There may be various reasons for the defalcation: the very faces and features that belong to our age have often less individuality and fewer traits by which the painter may produce a striking picture than those of men who lived in more struggling, fierce, or ardent times; we miss the strange, half-dreamy, yet practical features of Raleigh; the cold, cruel, intellectual visage of Calvin; the square, powerful heads and fiery faces of the old Reformers; the light, graceful, gay, half-contemptuous features of some of their opponents. The nineteenth-century costume, too, is a terrible thing for art to deal with; not the most masterly head that ever devised a piece of statecraft or a school of philosophy could show to advantage beneath a chimney-pot hat; not the most refined, striking, delicate, or commanding features can survive the conventional treatment of stick-up collars, with strings, and a black satin stock; no proportions can recover from the necessities of eighteen-shilling trousers and a tweed wrapper. Still, apart from these difficulties, one can scarcely help thinking that the difference between the old and the modern portrait-painter lies in the fact that the old masters who painted portraits were also painters of great imaginative subjects, and carried the faculty necessary to success in this part of their work into every other work in which they were engaged; that they painted not only—we had almost said not so much—the body as the mind of a man, and relying, almost without anxiety, on their perfect ability to reproduce in a mechanical way the mere details of features and ordinary expression, sat down to study what the man himself was, and therefore what any lasting record of him in a picture should be.

It may have happened that some of their portraits were not very good likenesses of the people they represented in their ordinary mood and with their everyday faces; but they come down to us often with such a complete and startling reminder of those things which history has recorded of the individuals there portrayed, that they must have been wonderfully like the originals at those best times when a man's soul shines through his face and reveals him as he is. Such a painter as we here refer to was Alessandro Bonvicino—better known as Il Moretto da Brescia, or even Moretto, simply—whose picture, of which we give an Engraving, may well illustrate that wonderful underseeing power that belonged to him and to many artists of his time. The old city of Italy may well have been proud of him, and so have given him its name, though Brescia had

much else of which to be proud; its Palazzo della Loggia, or town-hall, then being wrought in richest marbles by the great architects of the time, its colossal Broletto, its churches, altar-pieces, and frescoes—the latter to be increased by the great artist himself—and its school of painting, celebrated throughout Europe.

Alessandro Bonvicino was born about 1490, and the record of his works may be said to be the history of his life; almost the first notice we have of him being the fact that he studied under Fioravante Ferramola, of Brescia, and afterwards with Titian, at Venice. For years he was a faithful follower of the latter great master, but later in life, when his powers had become matured, he was an enthusiast for Raphael, whose style he adopted until his death—in, perhaps, 1560, for the exact dates of his birth and of his death are unknown. His works, however, live after him, and for thirty-two years he produced pictures which are to be seen in the frescoes at the Villa Martinengo, at Navarino, in altar-pieces at Brescia, and in some of the principal public galleries of Europe. It is little wonder that the portraits of this great master—pupil of two schools of painting—should possess such strange suggestive power as may be seen in that from which our Engraving is taken. Look into that melancholy Italian face upon the canvas, penetrate the dreamy eagerness of its space-seeking eyes, and you might guess the history of the man without referring to the label on the cap, "By the desire of the Extreme." It is a story of chivalry, but of the chivalry of the vendetta which desires to avenge a father's assassination. Portrait of an Italian nobleman, Count Sciarra Martinengo Cesaresco, of Brescia, whose father, Count Sciarra, was assassinated, and who was himself killed in France in the Huguenot campaign which closed with the Battle of Moncontour, Oct. 3, 1569; so, the catalogue. Standing opposite the picture itself, and thinking of the man it represents, you may learn much of his story without book.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA AT PESTH.

POPULAR sports are an excellent means of bringing persons of different classes together, and so of giving occasion to that familiarity of intercourse which, while it sometimes breeds contempt, is as often, perhaps, productive of esteem. The public games of ancient Greece and Rome brought together the rulers and the ruled—the patricians and the plebeians; at our own great "Isthmian games" on Epsom Downs members of the upper, the middle, and the lower strata of society meet on terms of equality; the Emperor of the French, by establishing horse-races, bids fair to compensate the French in part at least for the restrictions he has placed upon their political freedom; and now the races at Pesth have been the occasion of bringing together Francis Joseph of Austria and the Hungarians, who have been so long and so bitterly estranged from each other, with a fair probability of reconciliation—though, of course, there are still grave difficulties in the way. His Majesty arrived in the capital city of Hungary on Tuesday, the 6th inst., and is reported to have met with an enthusiastic reception. The Cardinal Primate, at the head of the Hungarian nobility, delivered an address to his Majesty, who expressed his thanks for the confidence therein manifested towards him. Of this the Emperor said he should be able to judge from the composition of the Diet. His Majesty stated, in conclusion, that in order to realise a mutual wish on his part and that of the country, he would submit to the ceremony of coronation as King of Hungary.

Besides the horse-races on a great plain near the city, called the Rakosfeld, where, in old days, the Diet, or great national council of the Maygars, used to be held in the open air, and where on such occasions there were sometimes assembled 100,000 men, the Emperor has been present at a regatta on the Danube; a torch-light procession from Pesth to Buda, and other fêtes, have taken place in his honour; and he has won golden opinions from all sorts of people by his affability. Still, however, the leaders of the people, notwithstanding the Emperor's condescension and amiability to such men as Deak, are determined to adhere to their political rights, and to insist upon the restitution of their Constitution. Such, at least, is the spirit reported to prevail, while the utmost respect is paid to his Majesty personally.

Pesth, which is the greatest commercial town and the most populous city of Hungary, stands on the left bank of the Danube, about twenty miles from the spot where the river, till then running nearly west to east, makes a sudden bend and changes its course to the south. The city stands in lat. 47 deg. 30 min. N., and long. 19 deg. 4 min. E. On the other side of the Danube, which is here about 1500 ft. broad, is the city of Buda, or Ofen, in which are the Royal palace, the chambers in which the Hungarian Diet latterly assembled, the Government offices, &c. Our Engraving shows a portion of both cities, which, although bearing different names, are in reality one. The two cities were formerly connected by a bridge of boats, but have within the last few years obtained the convenience of a handsome suspension bridge, as seen in the Engraving. During the war of 1848-9 this bridge, which was then unfinished, was the scene of an obstinate contest between the Imperial and the patriotic forces, and was all but destroyed. The damage, however, was subsequently repaired and the structure completed.

The city of Pesth, which is about seven miles in circumference, consists of five principal parts—viz., 1, the old town, which, though antiquated and irregularly built, contains some fine buildings; 2, Leopoldstadt, or the new town; 3, Theresienstadt; 4, Josephstadt; and 5, Franzstadt—the four last-mentioned divisions being named after Sovereigns in whose reigns they were built. Leopoldstadt, which is built on a very regular plan, is now joined to the old town, the walls which formerly surrounded the latter having been levelled to make room for new buildings. The other three parts, or suburbs, are divided from these two by a very wide street. The city contains fifteen churches, that of the University being distinguished by its very fine steeple and fresco paintings. The other Roman Catholic churches are not remarkable; but the Greek church, close to the Danube, is one of the handsomest buildings in the city. There are two Protestant churches, which, however, are very plain edifices. There are several other remarkable buildings, among which may be mentioned a great barrack, built by Charles VI.; a hospital for invalids; a handsome theatre, capable of containing 3000 spectators; the National Museum, and the University. The University was originally founded, in 1635, at Tyrnau; it was transferred, in 1777, to Ofen, by Maria Theresa; and to Pesth, in 1784, by Joseph II. The University, which has forty-nine professorships, used to be attended by upwards of 1000 students; but, perhaps, the troubles through which Hungary has passed since 1848 may have reduced the number. There is a library of 60,000 volumes, a collection of medals, a cabinet of natural history, pathological and anatomical specimens, &c. Dependent upon it are the botanic garden, the University hospital, veterinary school, and the observatory of Ofen, which stands on the Blocksberg, 278 ft. above the Danube, and is well supplied with instruments. The National Museum contains a fine library and a splendid collection of coins and medals, embracing above 60,000 specimens, of which the Greek, Roman, and other antique silver medals amount to upwards of 12,000. The museum, which is independent of the University, was originally founded by Count Szecsenyi, and was endowed by the Diet in 1804. There are several other educational establishments in the city, among which are two Protestant schools.

Though Buda is the residence of the Emperor's representative, and therefore the political capital of the kingdom, the seat of the High Court of Justice, of the Supreme Court of Appeal, and other tribunals, is in Pesth, which is also the centre of the Government of the three united counties of Pesth, Pils, and Solthen, which contain a population of about 400,000. There are manufactures, though on a small scale, of silks, cotton, leather, jewellery, and musical instruments. Pesth, however, after Vienna, has the largest trade of any city on the Danube. It has four fairs, each of which lasts a fortnight, and at which are sold manufactures, colonial produce, cattle, sheep, wool, tobacco, hides, wax, &c. Above 14,000 waggons, and 8000 ships, used to be employed in conveying goods to, and from the fairs, the value of which, at each of them was reckoned at from sixteen to seventeen millions of florins.



PORTRAIT OF AN ITALIAN NOBLEMAN.—(BY ALESSANDRO BONVICINO, IN THE NATIONAL GALLERY.)

Pesth was one of the most inconsiderable towns in the kingdom. Its progress and prosperity may be dated from the reign of the popular Empress Maria Theresa, around whom the Hungarians rallied with heroic devotion when, in her struggle with Frederick the Great of Prussia and other enemies, her position seemed desperate. From that time the improvement of the city was steady and rapid till 1838, when the Danube overflowed and

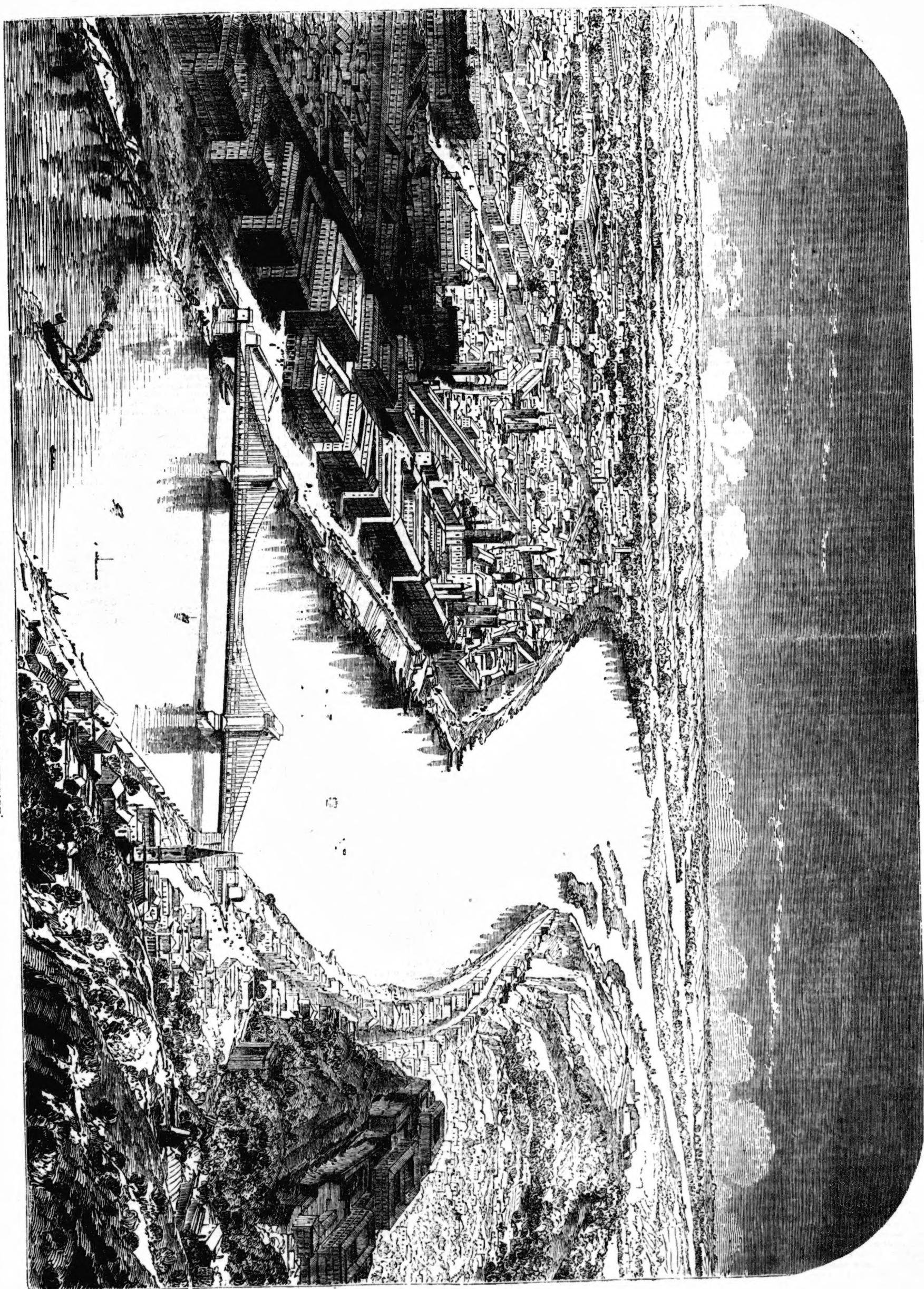
destroyed above 1200 houses. They were, however, for the most part, the worst buildings in the city, and the damage has since been repaired. Should the Emperor and the Hungarians come to an understanding with each other, and the country again be blessed with peace, contentment, and prosperity, Buda-Pesth may once more resume its old place as the second city of the empire.



*Yours faithfully
Karsandas Mulji*

KARSANDAS MULJI, THE INDIAN RELIGIOUS REFORMER.

The environs of Pesth are not picturesque, the city being built in a sandy plain; but there are some fine promenades, such as the Grove, a mile and a half from the city; the gardens of Baron Orczy, which are open to the public; and Margaret Island, or the Palatinat, in the Danube, which is tastefully laid out in walks and gardens. The population of the city, including the garrison and strangers, amounts to about 80,000 souls, the great majority of whom are Roman Catholics. It is the residence of many noblemen, country gentlemen, judges, and lawyers. Though an ancient town, Pesth is in its present form comparatively recent. It has often been laid waste during war, and was held by the Turks for nearly 160 years, the Ottomans only being expelled in 1686. A civil war followed, and at the commencement of the eighteenth century



BUDA-PESTH, ON THE DANUBE, THE CAPITAL OF HUNGARY.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 263.

JOTTINGS ABOUT SIR JOSEPH PAXTON.

DEATH, inexorable Death, has summoned away another notable man from the House of Commons. We say notable, for, though Sir Joseph Paxton did not rise to eminence in the House, in more ways than one he was a notable man. His death, though unexpected by the public, was not a surprise to those who knew him. He had been ailing for two years, and the last time he appeared in the house it was painfully evident that the summons had gone forth, and that his end was nigh. Biographies of Sir Joseph have appeared in most of the papers. Few of them are correct; but this is not the place to give a correct biography. A few reminiscences, however, of Sir Joseph may be interesting to our readers—more interesting, perhaps, than anything that we can extract out of the dull proceedings of this dying Parliament.

HIS ORIGIN.

When a man rises from a low position to eminence, it is the fashion of the world to attempt to conceal his mean origin, as if it were more honourable to a man to owe his position to his ancestors than to make it himself. Thus Dod says that Sir Joseph Paxton was the son of William Paxton, Esq. Joseph was certainly the son of William; but William was not an esquire, nor even a yeoman, nor a farmer, but a labourer of a superior class, working, if we are not mistaken, as a woodman, or overlooker, perhaps, of woodmen, in the woods of Milton Bryant, Bedfordshire. Joseph's brother is now and has long been a farmer. His name is Thomas, and he is well known in Bedfordshire for his rough eloquence at agricultural dinners and market tables, and for an overflowing of mother-wit and humour. There must have been some good stuff, we suspect, in the parents, either one or both; for the whole of their children have been lifted above the family level by their own talents and energies. But enough of the origin of Sir Joseph—which, by-the-way, he never attempted to conceal, but, on the contrary, like a sensible man, was rather proud to acknowledge.

EMERGENCE.

How came Sir Joseph to get first into the service of the Devonshire family? Well, we have heard that this was the way, but we cannot prove the authenticity of the anecdote. It was told to us by one who knew Sir Joseph, that Paxton, when a lad, was walking in a garden—name of garden not given, but presumed to be the garden of Woburn Abbey—when he was thus accosted by the Duke of Devonshire:—"Boy, get me a light for my cigar. How will you bring it?" At first the boy was puzzled, but suddenly he thus replied, "If your Grace will give me another cigar I will go and light that and bring it to you." And this was done; and the Duke, struck with the smartness of the lad, entered into talk with him when he had brought the light, and, finding him quick and intelligent, noted him down in his memory—got him a situation at Kew, and subsequently placed him in his own gardens at Chatsworth. Whether this story be authentic or not we cannot say. We tell it as it was told to us, not vouching for its accuracy. A critical friend of ours has objected that this, if it occurred at all, must have occurred at least forty-five years ago, and that then cigars were scarcely known in England; but we fancy that our critical friend is wrong. We think we remember the dandies of that time smoking cigars with long straws in them, and the street boys calling out, "Sir, it's going to rain, for the pigs go about with straws in their mouths." But it's no matter.

BIRTH OF AN IDEA.

If that be doubtful, here is something unquestionably true, for we had it from Sir Joseph himself. In 1850 the promoters of the Great Exhibition were in a dilemma. They had adopted a plan of the building, but when they came to consider it they discovered to their dismay that it could not be erected in time. The matter came under discussion in the house, and Paxton was in the gallery while; and as he listened, it struck him that a building on the plan of his great conservatory at Chatsworth—a vast erection of iron and glass, in short—would answer the purpose better than any other, and could be built in time. He left the gallery, got a pen and ink and a sheet of blotting-paper, the only sheet of paper large enough that was available, and then and there sketched roughly the plan which he had formed in his mind. By some means he then got access to the commissioners, who had the sagacity to see at once that here, possibly, was a way out of their difficulty. In short, the idea was accepted and realised, as we all know. This, then, was the birthplace and birthtime of the Crystal Palace, and, indeed, of all other crystal palaces, past, now existent, and yet to come. Query, is that sheet of blotting paper in existence? If it be, it should be preserved with care. This version of the story differs from that usually given as to the time and place when the idea of a crystal palace first occurred to Sir Joseph; but, for the reason we have stated, we believe the above to be correct. The idea may have been elaborated afterwards at a meeting of quarter sessions, or something of that sort, as is usually stated; and both versions be correct in part.

HIS INTEGRITY.

Amongst the good things which Sir Joseph Paxton did, one of the chief was certainly the organisation of the Army Works Corps; but it brought on him a monstrous deal of trouble and anxiety. It was not, however, the formation of the corps which troubled him, but the getting clear of it when the Crimean War was over. The men, as they thought, were not well treated, and, naturally enough, they looked to Sir Joseph to redress their wrongs; and they bothered him sorely—besetting him in the street, haunting him in the lobby of the house, swarming around him, in short, whenever he showed himself, like angry bees. This was, for a time, a great trouble to Sir Joseph, and all the more so in that he had no power whatever to redress the grievances of these men. How the business was settled at last we know not; but it was gradually disposed of by worrying the Circumlocution Office, and it is to be hoped, to the satisfaction of all parties. And then there was that French Treaty. Sir Joseph was member for Coventry; and the ribbon-weavers there, all in a white heat of angry excitement, blown up into this fervid state by the eloquence of Newdegate, and Spooner, and Bentinck, and other Protectionist orators—some of them sincere, but others only anxious to get political capital out of the business—terribly pestered poor Sir Joseph for a time. We remember seeing him, and talking to him, as he stood at the door of the house, a large deputation of weavers from Coventry waiting for him at the other end of the lobby, "What on earth shall I say to these poor fellows?" said he. "I can't vote against Protection if I lose my seat, as I suppose I shall. However, I must go and speak to them. They can't be left there." And so he took the plunge. What he said we know not; but we always suspected that when the general election should come he would have to lose his seat as the penalty for his integrity in this matter. He has, however, been saved this mortification. He has been summoned to a bar where they exact penalties for dishonesty, but not for integrity, we may be sure.

A WORKING MEMBER.

Readers, do you know Mr. George Ward Hunt, the member for North Northamptonshire? Possibly not; for we do not remember that we ever introduced him to your notice. Let us, then, now call your attention to him. Mr. Hunt when once seen can never be forgotten, for he is one of our giants. Next to Mr. White, of Brighton, he is, we should say, the biggest man in the House; Mr. White, we fancy, though, bears the palm; but there cannot be much difference between the two. Both are of gigantic proportions. Mr. Hunt came into Parliament in 1857, and very soon after he appeared in the house he began to develop before us as a painstaking, hard-working, clear-headed man of business. He is not, and never has been a frequent speaker; seldom, or never, appears in a faction fight; never talks for the sake of talking (oh, that all would do the same!), and does not pretend to oratorical powers. He is, as we have said, one of our men of business; one of those men who are anxious rather to be useful than to be famous, and would much prefer to improve our legislation than to gain a dozen party triumphs; devoting their

time to examining bills, that they may detect faults and get them eradicated, suggest improvements and get them adopted. A very useful class of men this, readers. A class of men, indeed, if we think of it, to whom we all of us owe much more than we can ever know. They work silently, in the dark, like nature's subterranean influences, and are known, not by the fruits which they raise or the noise which they make, but by the fruits which they produce. Properly, Mr. Hunt and the like of him are not talkers, but workers. In Mr. Hunt there are no bursts of Parliamentary eloquence, nor has he the art of making the worse appear the better reason by ingenious attorney logic; and yet he, too, can speak reasonably well when he has anything to say. Witness the speech which he gave us, on Monday night, on the much-controverted Oath Bill. It was a good speech, well expressed, and had matter in it indicating clear insight into the subject; and, further, unexpected Liberalism. Steadily Mr. Hunt had looked at these oaths, and, unlike most of his Conservative friends—wonderful to say!—could see no value in them; would have one uniform oath for all members, or no oaths. Hear him, hear him, ye darkened Conservatives! "What use are they?" What use, indeed? Very unexpected was all this from the Conservative benches, and, to Conservatives generally, dismaying enough. But Conservatism, as we have not unfrequently noticed, is not under the entirely dark, dark cloud—total eclipse, beyond all hope of day—that it used to be, but is ever and anon irradiated by glimmerings of day, and towards the edges of it is fringed with flashings and coruscations of light—showing us that even Conservatism feels and shows the influence of the time.

DISRAELI AND THE CATHOLICS.

Our readers will remember that when the Roman Catholic Oath Bill came before the House, some ten days ago, Sir John Pakington asked Mr. Monsell to postpone the second reading for a time upon the plea that the Conservative leader, who wished to give his opinion upon this much-vexed question, was suffering from a severe attack of the gout, and would not be in his place. To this request Mr. Monsell gave flat though courteous refusal. "Will the right hon. member for Bucks propose," asked Mr. Monsell, "an oath that can be taken by all parties—Catholics and Protestants?" "No," Sir John could not say he would; "but his right hon. friend wished to give his opinion." "Ah! Cannot wait at this period of the Session for a mere opinion that can be given at some future stage," was the rejoinder. And so the bill was read a second time. But on Monday this question turned up again, the bill standing upon the paper for Committee. And, now, the Conservative chief, having shaken off podagra, is in his place to give us "his opinion." But why should Disraeli be so anxious to give us his opinion on this particular bill? Our readers may ask. Well, the truth is, there is a good deal hanging upon this bill. To look at it, it would seem to be not much, but really it is a very insidious bill. The vinegar of Hannibal looked simple enough, you know, but it melted the rocks; and this bill, which contains only a couple or so of clauses, has done the same with the Conservative party, which the right hon. gentleman "has the honour to lead," setting Catholics against Protestants, and, in short, threatening to damage Conservative prospects at the general election to an alarming degree, and this is the reason why the Conservative chief is so anxious to speak. He wishes, if possible, to heal these divisions—to stay the spreading plague. True, the right hon. gentleman has nothing substantial to offer to the Roman Catholics, that has already been announced; but, then, cannot he smooth down their ruffled feathers by the application of judicious and ingenious rhetoric? Right hon. gentleman will try. He has a great opinion of the value of rhetoric, and especially of his own. The right hon. gentleman rose to perform his delicate task immediately after Mr. Hunt had sat down. If, now, the right hon. gentleman could but have adopted Mr. Hunt's suggestion—which, probably, he would have done if circumstances had been favourable—to wit, abolish all oaths! But right hon. gentleman really could not do that. Abolish oaths! Tear up Protestant palisades! Knock down the buttresses of the Church! Fancy what enraged Protestantism would say to that! No, that cannot be done. That way lies inexpiable offence to Protestants and mere ruin to the Conservative party. Indeed, the moderate measure which Mr. Monsell had proposed, cannot be accepted, so alarmed is Protestantism. And yet something must be done or said to placate the Roman Catholics, or the Roman Catholic tail, so useful in divisions, may whisk itself away. If we have not deeds for them, then we must try satisfy them with words. It is a hard task; but what cannot ingenious rhetoric do? At all events, it must be tried.

HIS WONDERFUL SPEECH.

And so, on Monday night, the Conservative chief got upon his legs to try his specific; and to our mind, as he opened his case so solemnly, and all the while he was speaking, he was like Captain Macheath between his two wives; and, no doubt, it was in his heart to say, with the rollicking Captain, though not at all in the Captain's rollicking mood,

How happy could I be with either,
Were I other dear charmer away;

for consider, if he should side too demonstratively with Mdme. Protestantism, then Mdme. Popery would pout and look glum; whilst, on the other hand, if he should dally and coquette with Mdme. Popery, Mdme. Protestant would explode and rage, and go into hysterics. However, Conservative Chief tried his experiment, and in a manner succeeded—succeeded in making a most ingenious and clever speech, if in no other way; perhaps the most ingenious speech that has been made since the art of speaking was first used to conceal and not to reveal thoughts, which is a long time ago. To Protestantism he boldly avowed his constant allegiance, and with equal boldness deprecated the bill—gave to Protestantism the solid pudding, whilst, on the other hand, to the Catholics he presented nothing, when it came to be analysed, but empty praise and specious council. But, then, how artfully and artistically he wrapped it up, to make the words look like things, the Barmecide Feast appear like solid viands! He eulogised the Catholic faith—eulogised, indeed, the Pope and the Pope's rule, both ecclesiastical and civil. The oaths were such as no gentleman need to decline; and, further, they were intended to be and are quite as beneficial and protective to the Catholic as to the Protestant Church. As he uttered this wonderful sophism we looked at him and listened to him, thinking to discover some touch of irony; but we found none. It was uttered with all gravity, and seriousness, and apparent confidence that it would be received as axiomatic truth. The Protestant Church of Ireland—was not that, too, a defence of the rights and privileges of Catholics?—and so on and so on, for we cannot pretend to give an abridgment, nor even an analysis, of this remarkable speech—for remarkable it was. It was a speech that no man in the world but Disraeli could deliver. The composition of it was faultless. Every word was the right word, every sentence was exquisitely modelled, and it was delivered in the speaker's best manner. And if mere words, artistically cooked, could be made to satisfy men hungering for and expecting things, the Roman Catholics might have been abundantly satisfied. But it cannot. Mere articulate wind can satisfy no one, however artistically it may be articulated. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Roman Catholics were not satisfied. They all voted for the bill; therefore, the speech, ingenious and clever as it was, produced no effect; and therefore, in this light, cannot be adjudged a success.

HOW IT WAS RECEIVED.

It was curious to watch the House whilst Disraeli was speaking. The majority of the Conservatives looked puzzled and perplexed. Newdegate, we fancied, looked scornful and contemptuous. Whiteside, who sits close behind Disraeli, was evidently ill at ease. And no wonder; for to him this speech must have had the aspect of temporising with wrong and parleying with the enemy. Whiteside is an Orangeman of the brightest hue; war to the knife against the Pope and all his works, is his motto; the Pope to him is Antichrist, and Popery the abomination of desolation; and, if his allegiance to his leader had not restrained him—if this speech had been uttered by a gentle-

man opposite—with what scathing eloquence would he have denounced it! The Roman Catholics generally looked—as one would say, knowing, as "a cunning red fox may be supposed to look at a trap"—as if they were about to mutter, or were muttering, "Do you see anything green here?" One of them, when it was all over, called the speech "an Asian mystery." The division showed not so great a majority as that which was obtained on the second reading. But it was enough. The bill will be sent to the Lords, and there it will be ruthlessly slain, and would have been if it had passed into Committee by a hundred majority. Already Derby has issued his fiat; and the lawn sleeves of the bishops are fluttering with anticipation of a pleasurable sacrifice.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9.
HOUSE OF COMMONS.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

Sir L. PALK called attention to the recent railway accidents, and insisted that there should be communication between guard and driver and guard and passenger. He also asked whether the practice of locking the doors of carriages was not contrary to law.

Mr. M. GIBSON again recounted the difficulties in the way of providing the required communication between guard and passengers. He did not know whether it was illegal to lock the doors of carriages.

SUPPLY.

The House went into Committee of Supply, and Mr. WALPOLE moved the vote for the British Museum. After a long discussion the vote was agreed to. Some other votes were taken, and the House was counted out while a discussion was going on in reference to the vote for the Postal Packet Service.

MONDAY, JUNE 12.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House of Lords reassembled for the first time after the Whitsuntide recess.

THE UNITED STATES.

The Earl of DERBY called attention to two documents—one addressed by Earl Russell to heads of departments withdrawing belligerent rights from the Confederates of the Southern States of America, and the other a proclamation by the President of the United States declaring the ports of the Union, with certain exceptions, to be open to commerce, and denouncing the penalties of piracy against persons trading with the excepted ports.

Earl RUSSELL said that when his letter was written the war in America was practically ended, and only two Confederate vessels remained afloat, one of which was about to surrender to the authorities at Havannah. Having first ascertained from Mr. Adams that the United States had determined upon abandoning their belligerent rights, he at once brought the question before the Cabinet. The war had now entirely ceased, and the maritime Powers of Europe had expressed concurrence in the decision of the British Government. With regard to the proclamation of President Johnson, it was certainly a curious document, and that portion of it which denounced as piracy to trade with ports not blockaded was somewhat startling. Sir Frederick Bruce had immediately sought an explanation, but could get none, and his opinion was that the threat was merely meant to be suspended in *terrorem*.

The Earl of DERBY suggested that the Government would do well to make some protest against such an illegal threat.

THE UNION CHARGEABILITY BILL.

Earl GRANVILLE moved the second reading of the Union Chargeability Bill, which was seconded by Lord BROUGHAM.

The Duke of RUTLAND opposed it, and moved that the bill be referred to a Select Committee.

A lengthy debate followed, in which Earl Spencer, Lord Portsmouth, the Earl of Carnarvon, and Earl Grey supported the bill, and Lord St. Maur and Lord Redesdale opposed it.

On a division, the second reading was carried by 86 votes to 24.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC OATH BILL.

The House went into Committee on the Roman Catholic Oath Bill. On Clause 1,

Sir HUGH CAIRNS moved an amendment to interpolate into the proposed oath a sentence making the member swear that he will do nothing to subvert the Established Church or the Protestant religion and Government. He supported the amendment as being a bulwark of the Church.

Mr. HUNT opposed it. He did not believe the Church wanted any such bulwark. Every member ought to be left free to vote as he pleased on any subject.

Mr. DISRAELI delivered his promised declaration on the bill. He sought to soothe Catholics and Protestants alike. He deprecated all attacks on Catholics, lectured Catholics in return on the want of wisdom shown by them in assailing the Irish Church, and maintained that the recent attacks upon the temporal power of the Pope in Italy had all been produced by the efforts of the Roman Catholics to subvert the Protestant Church Establishment in Ireland. The oath was a greater protection to Catholicism than to Protestantism, and therefore he was for inserting the words proposed by Sir H. Cairns.

Sir G. GREY declined to follow Mr. Disraeli through all the topics of his speech. The bill was good and wise in principle, and therefore he supported it. He ventured, however, to remind the Opposition that no attack upon the Irish Church had ever come from Catholic members of the House.

Mr. WHITESIDE supported the motion, as did Mr. HENLEY. After a few words from Mr. HORSMAN and Mr. NEWDEGATE, the amendment was negatived by 166 votes to 147.

The bill passed through Committee, and was ordered to be reported.

THE POOR-LAW BOARD.

Mr. VILLIERS moved the second reading of the Poor-Law Board Continuance Bill. A long discussion followed, but eventually the bill was read a second time by 74 votes to 67.

TUESDAY, JUNE 13.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Lord St. Leonards laid upon the table, and their Lordships read a first time, a bill to prohibit railway companies from locking the doors of carriages in passenger-trains.

On the motion of Earl Granville, seconded by the Earl of Malmesbury, an address was agreed to congratulating her Majesty upon the Princess of Wales having given birth to another Prince.

In Committee on the Public-house Closing Act (1864) Amendment Bill, Earl De Grey moved to strike out the fifth clause, with the view of transferring the power of granting occasional licenses from the magistrates to the Commissioners of Police. The Marquis of Clanricarde intimated that if the clause were struck out he should move its restoration to the report. The magistrates, and not the police, were the constitutional authorities to decide such matters. The clause was then struck out, and the bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

At a morning sitting the Prisons Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Greenwich Hospital Bill was further considered in Committee; and, at the instance of Mr. Childers, a clause was added, in accordance with the suggestion made on a former night by Sir J. Hay, providing that the honorary office of Governor of the Hospital to be filled by a distinguished naval officer should be continued. Subsequently the bill was ordered to be reported, with amendments, to the House.

PAVING, ETC., OF THE METROPOLIS.

At the evening sitting Sir W. FRASER moved for a commission to inquire into the operation of the Acts relating to the paving, lighting, and cleansing of the metropolis. He spoke in anything but complimentary terms of the manner in which the streets were managed.

Sir G. GREY said the remedy for the evils complained of lay in extending the powers of the Metropolitan Board of Works.

The motion was withdrawn.

THE BELFAST RIOTS.

Mr. O'REILLY moved a resolution to the effect that the evidence taken by the commissioners appointed to inquire into the Belfast riots contained statements so seriously impugning the official conduct of certain magistrates, that equity to the magistrates accused, and a due regard to the vindication of the impartiality of the administration of justice, required that a full inquiry into the truth of these charges should be instituted by the authorities entrusted with the supervision of the magistracy of Ireland.

A long discussion took place on the motion, and at its close the House divided, and the motion was negatived by 132 to 39.

THE BALLOT.

Mr. BERKELEY, in consequence of the lateness of the hour, postponed his motion in reference to voting by ballot at elections.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TESTS ABOLITION (OXFORD) BILL.

Mr. GOSCHEN moved the second reading of this bill, which, he explained, was identical with the measure of last year, which had been defeated by a majority of two only. It was not the object of the bill to admit Dissenters to the governing body of the University, although it might lead to that result eventually, but to enable degrees to be conferred without reference to religious tests.

Mr. G. DUFF seconded the motion.

LORD R. CECIL moved as an amendment that the bill be read a second time that day six months. The noble Lord observed that the changes proposed would injure the University and degrade it to the level of those German institutions where there was metaphysical learning in abundance but an absolute dearth of religious belief. He could not agree to separate education from religious principles, although he had no objection to allowing Dissenters to obtain the degree of Master of Arts. To admit them to the governing body of the University, however, was a proposal to which he would never give his assent.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he could have no hesitation as to the course which he ought to adopt on the present occasion, because he stood upon a different ground from that which he occupied last year, when the subject was before the House. For the promoters of the bill openly avowed their desire to separate education from religion, and that was a principle to which he was resolutely opposed.

Several other hon. members having addressed the House, a division took place, when the numbers were—For the amendment, 190; against it, 206: majority for the second reading, 16. The bill was then read a second time amid loud cheers from the Liberal benches.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15. HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Earl of Shaftesbury presented a petition from the workmen in Price's Patent Candle Company praying that the British Museum and National Gallery be opened during three evenings in the week.

Several bills were advanced a stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NEW WRITS.

On the motion of Mr. Waldron, a new writ was ordered for the borough of Liskeard, in the room of Mr. B. Osborne, who has accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

On the motion of Mr. Brand, a new writ was ordered for the city of Coventry, in the room of Sir Joseph Paxton.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

Colonel GREVILLE asked the President of the Board of Trade whether he was prepared to take any steps to prevent the doors of railway carriages being locked in future.

Mr. M. GIBSON said he understood that the fact of the carriages being locked on the occasion of the late accident on the Great Western Railway was an exceptional one. He believed that generally only one door was locked.

MALT DUTY BILL.

On the order for going into Committee on this bill, Mr. CAIRD went into the question of the malt duty, urging its repeal on behalf of the agriculturists of the country.

Sir F. KELLY advocated the repeal of the malt duty on the ground of the advantage it would offer in the feeding of cattle. He was quite ready to go into Committee on the bill, for, although it was a small measure, it was a step in the right direction.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that sixty millions a year were expended by the people of England in beer, and the trade could not therefore be in such a deplorable position as had been represented. He had on a former occasion offered to place the question of the malt tax in antagonism to a repeal of a portion of the income tax, but the advocates of the repeal of the malt tax did not think it well to accept the challenge.

The House then went into Committee on the bill.

After some discussion, the bill passed through Committee, its duration having been limited to three years, and the weight of the barley to be dealt with under the Act at 53 lb. and under per bushel.

THE SUGAR DUTIES AND DRAWBACKS BILL, the object of which was to give effect to a convention between England, France, Belgium, and Holland, passed through Committee.

THE COMPTROLLER of the EXCHEQUER and PUBLIC AUDIT BILL. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in moving the second reading of this bill, said that the object of it was to amalgamate the two offices and to grant a retiring allowance to Lord Montagu, the present comptroller, who was about to resign his post.

Lord R. MONTAGUE considered the bill of much too important a character, and involved too serious a principle, to be brought forward at the last gasp of a moribund Parliament, when the great majority of the members had gone to canvass their respective constituencies. He moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day month.

Sir G. BOWYER seconded the amendment, contending that the duties of the chairman of the Audit Board and those of the comptrollers of the Exchequer were wholly incompatible, and of too heterogeneous a character to be merged into each other.

After some discussion Lord R. Montagu withdrew his amendment, and the bill was read a second time.

LAW OF EVIDENCE.

The House having gone into Committee upon Sir Fitzroy's Kelly's Bill to amend the law of evidence, Clause 1, authorising the plaintiff and defendant to be examined as witnesses in cases of breach of promise of marriage, gave rise to considerable discussion. Upon a division, the clause was rejected by a majority of 86 to 27.—Clause 2, authorising the husband and wife to be examined as witnesses in cases of divorce, also called up considerable opposition. The result was that the clause was rejected without any division.—Sir F. Kelly then intimated his intention of withdrawing the bill.

The remainder of the night was occupied with the consideration of the other bills upon the paper.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1865.

PARLIAMENTARY SWEARING.

HARD swearing is very objectionable, whether it be profane, legal, parliamentary, or ecclesiastical; and yet we all do a good deal of one sort or another of it in this country. Vulgar people swear profanely; all who have to do with our courts of law—whether as judges, witnesses, or officers—swear legally; clergymen on certain occasions swear ecclesiastically, only they give it a different name, and call it "subscription;" and members of Parliament swear legislatively. With profane swearers it is not our province to deal: we commend them to the care of the ecclesiastical swearers, whose duty it is to take heed for the manners and morals of their flocks. The legal swearers are under the cognisance of the police and the occupants of the judicial bench; and, if proved to have sworn falsely, will be dealt with according to their deserts. The ecclesiastical oath-takers seem to derive a species of pleasure from the style of swearing peculiar to the cloth, so we may safely—for the present, at least—leave them to take care of themselves. Our present business is with a bit of Parliamentary swearing which is exceedingly disagreeable to a number of honest as well as honourable members of the Commons' House.

The Roman Catholic members of Parliament are required to take an oath different from that administered to Protestants, and are compelled to swear not to do certain things which everybody knows none of them would ever think of doing, or, if they did, no oath whatever would prevent their attempting. Among other things, Roman Catholic

members of Parliament are required to make oath that they do not believe it lawful to kill any person who has been excommunicated by the Pope; as if any gentleman eligible to become a member could be supposed capable of holding so monstrous a doctrine; or, if such an individual could be found, that he would be deterred from carrying out his belief by any oath whatever. To insist upon administering such an oath, therefore, is an insult to an honest man and is useless with a villain; in either case, it should be abandoned. Then—and this is the point at present in dispute in the House—Roman Catholics are made to swear that they will do nothing, directly nor indirectly, to interfere with the Church as by law established in England and Ireland. Now, this is an oath which cannot be taken without interfering either with the conscience or the freedom of the members to whom it is administered: they must either infringe the letter of the oath, and thereby do violence to their consciences, or they must forego their right to discuss and vote upon all and every question which comes before them, and thereby neglect the interests of their constituents on matters which may be of vital moment to them. And this injustice is made all the more glaring from the fact that other members, who make no secret of their hostility to Church establishments, are subjected to no such test. Dissenters do not disguise their desire to interfere with, and even to subvert, the Established Church; and yet they are not required to take any oath on the subject. Then why, in fairness, should Roman Catholics be so fettered? The Church is an institution of the country, which, like all our other institutions, exists by the will of the people, as expressed in Parliament; and, also like all our other institutions, is liable to be reformed, modified, and even abolished, in accordance with the will and determination of the people's Parliament. Parliament made the Church—or at least, which is the same thing, sanctioned it after it had been made—and, of course, Parliament can unmake the Church if it so pleases. Parliament may not choose to exercise this power, and for many years to come—if ever—we feel sure it will not exercise it. But when the Church ceases to be prized by the Parliament, and therefore by the people, no oath that can be devised will save it from annihilation. The argument, therefore, of one portion of the opponents of Mr. Monsell's Roman Catholic Oath Bill, that this part of the Parliamentary oath is a bulwark of the Church, is utterly futile. It will not serve the purpose for which it is designed; and as it is an insult and a grievance to those upon whom it is imposed, its only effect must be to beget the very hostility it is intended to avert. Injustice must ever produce dislike to the thing in the name of which it is perpetrated; and to attempt to bulwark the Church by restricting the freedom and outraging the consciences of any section of the members of Parliament, is the most unwise course which the friends of the Establishment can pursue. The Church must rest on more solid foundations than unwillingly extorted oaths. The usefulness of her Ministers, the purity of her doctrine, the kindness and yet the strictness of her discipline, and, above all, the attachment of the people, must ever be her strongest bulwarks.

Again, it is alleged that, as this provision regarding the Church was included in the Catholic Emancipation Act of 1829, and was accepted by the Roman Catholics of that time, therefore it is a compact, a bargain, which must never be disturbed. But this style of reasoning would preclude all change, all progress, all improvement whatever. "Potwalloper" voters, pocket boroughs, close town-councils, the corn laws, protection, Catholic disabilities, colonial slavery, and a host of other things, were once part of the laws and institutions of the country—were compacts made by the community for what it deemed its advantage at the time. Yet we have abolished all these; and are we to be precluded from pursuing a similar course with the obnoxious portions of the Parliamentary oath by this absurd plea of "a compact"? That compact, too, was the work of Parliament; and if the Parliament of 1829 had the power to make it, the Parliament of 1865 has the power to annul it.

The cogency of this reasoning is so palpable that the acute and ingenious leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons was compelled to "seek other cause" against Mr. Monsell's bill; and so Mr. Disraeli sought to "mend the instances" of his shallow supporters by a very fanciful and far-fetched course of reasoning, which, unluckily, had the misfortune to be at once lacking in the necessary connection between premiss and conclusion, and directly antagonistic to the arguments of the other defenders of the oath. The Catholics, said Mr. Disraeli, are more interested in maintaining the Established Church than the Protestants, because attacks upon the temporal position of the Church in England justify attacks upon the temporal power of the Pope, and, in fact, have led to the recent despoiling of the Holy See of its territory. But if Roman Catholics are bound by regard to their own interests to maintain the Anglican and Hiberno-Anglican Establishments intact, why should it be necessary to swear them against doing the opposite? And if Protestantism is to be upheld under all circumstances, and in all places, what chance is there of Catholicism spreading anywhere?—an object which, we suspect, the Pope, the cardinals, and Roman Catholics generally will prefer to maintaining the "Church of England in Ireland," or anywhere else, and which they will scarcely think Mr. Disraeli's programme is likely to accomplish. Mr. Disraeli must "mend his instance" still further ere he will succeed in either swaying the Catholics or upsetting the arguments in favour of Mr. Monsell's bill.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE INFANT PRINCE, it is rumoured, will receive the name of Christian after the Royal Dane, his grandfather.

THE EMPRESS EUGENIE has conferred the cross of the Legion of Honour on Mlle. Rosa Bonheur, the celebrated painter.

PRINCESS DAGMAR is shortly to receive from the ladies of St. Petersburg as a mark of sympathy, a magnificent jewel in lapis lazuli, set with pearls and diamonds. It is an imitation of the famous cross carried off from the treasury of St. Sophia of Constantinople, and now at St. Petersburg.

PRINCE NAPOLEON has had an accident, and been thrown out of his carriage. He is not, however, seriously hurt.

THE ETON RIFLE CORPS now exists in name only, the boys devoting themselves to other athletic pursuits in preference.

A MARRIAGE (says the *Morning Post*) is arranged between Viscount Hood and Miss Edith Ward, second daughter of Mr. Arthur W. Ward, of Upper Grosvenor-street.

MR. W. CAVE THOMAS has been commissioned to paint the Twelve Apostles for the new church of the Russian Embassy.

SIR LASCELLES WRAXALL, Bart., well known for his contributions to popular literature, died at Vienna on Sunday morning.

A FRENCH FIRM has obtained a contract for sixteen locomotives for the Great Eastern Railway Company, in the face of strenuous English competition.

LORD ROBERT CECIL, M.P., has, by the death of his elder brother, become Lord Cranbourne and heir apparent to the Marquise of Salisbury.

THE UNITED STATES war-steamers Niagara and Sacramento are in Southampton water, where it is supposed they will remain to refit.

A DECREE has been issued, signed by the Empress, according to which all warnings given to the journals in Paris and the departments are considered null and void.

THE RIGHT HON. W. E. GLADSTONE, M.P., has consented to take the chair at the anniversary festival of the Printers' Pension, Almshouse, and Orphan Asylum Corporation on the 8th of July.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE on the Leeds Bankruptcy Court scandal has resolved to conduct the inquiry with closed doors.

THE DESCENDANT of a family of soldiers, who have been serving their country uninterruptedly for 165 years, is now residing in Chatham barracks.

A DUEL is impending between Herr von Bismarck and Herr Virchow, in consequence of alleged offensive expressions used by the latter in a recent debate in the Prussian Chamber of Deputies.

THE TRIBUNAL of the SEINE has decided against the claims made upon the insurance companies by the children of M^{me}. Pauw, who it will be remembered was poisoned some time since by La Pommereuse.

ORDERS have been issued at Aldershot that, until further notice, no soldier sentenced to undergo an imprisonment for a less period than 168 hours is to be committed to the Divisional Military Prison.

INFORMATION has been received by her Majesty's Government of the intended blockade of the ports and coast of the Republic of Paraguay by a Brazilian naval force.

MR. GEORGE HUDSON, ex-railway king, is a candidate for the representation of the borough of Whitby, on Conservative principles.

ON THE SANDS AT SCULLERCOATS, near Tynemouth, a board has been fixed on which is inscribed the following notice:—"Any person passing beyond this point will be drowned, by order of the magistrates!"

THE QUEEN of SPAIN has presented to Thomas Bate, coxswain of the Bude Haven life-boat of the Royal National Life-boat Institution, the gold medal of honour for his brave services in aiding, with others, to save ten of the crew of the Spanish brig Juanito, which was wrecked during a fearful gale of wind, off Bude Haven, in January last.

A HOSTILE MEETING has taken place between two general officers of the French army in Algeria—Lieutenant-General Deligny and Major-General Legrand—to decide some affair of "honour." The weapons were swords, and General Deligny was mortally wounded.

THE REMAINS of the DEAD SOLDIERS killed in the vicinity of Richmond Virginia, are now being removed in great numbers and transported to their former homes in the North.

A MARRIAGE is about to take place between Mr. Robert Hanbury, M.P., eldest son of Mr. Robert Hanbury, of Poles, Herts, and Miss Eardley, eldest daughter of the late Sir Culling Eardley, Bart., of Bedwell Park, Herts.

MR. THOMAS ARNOLD, second son of the late Rev. Dr. Arnold, who succeeded a few years ago to Rome, and was for some time a Professor in Dr. Newman's University at Dublin, has returned to the English Church.

THE SITE selected in Westminster Abbey for a statue of the late Lord Canning is in close proximity to that of the Right Hon. George Canning. The work is placed in the hands of Mr. Foley, who is also commissioned with an equestrian group of the same noble personage for India.

THE NUMBER of ROMAN CATHOLICS in the gaols of Ireland is 29,256, or 86 per cent of the whole. Members of the Established Church number 3312, or 10 per cent; and Presbyterians 1694, or about 3 per cent.

AN INSTITUTION for the reception of females addicted to intemperance is being provided in connection with the House of Refuge for the Destitute in Edinburgh. Compulsory detention is repudiated; the inmates are to be at liberty to leave whenever they are so disposed.

A YOUNG MAN DIED last week at Westminster Hospital of hydrophobia; he was bitten about nine weeks previously. He had cramps, a flow of saliva from the mouth, and an intense desire to drink. When water was offered him he clutched the vessel, but was unable to drink. His face became black and turbid, and his eyeballs protruded. Opium and soothing medicine were administered.

LORD CLARENCE PAGET stated, at a banquet to the Prince of Wales at Fishmongers' Hall on Saturday last, that it had been agreed, at the suggestion of the French Emperor, that the English iron-clad fleet should visit the coast of France, that the French fleet should visit the coast of England, and that the two fleets would be in conjunction off Plymouth about the middle of next month.

MR. R. PROCTOR, of St. John's College, Cambridge, who has just published an elaborate book on the planet Saturn, believes Saturn's rings to be not continuous bodies, either solid or fluid, but a multitude of loose planets, grouped like a bead necklace round his equatorial regions, just as if he were furnished, not with one moon, but as many moons as would span the whole earth.

GLADIATEUR won the Great Prize of Paris (100,000fr., or £4000, and a work of art given by the Emperor) on Sunday last. The race, which is open to all nations, was witnessed by an immense crowd of spectators. The Emperor and Empress were present, and were loudly cheered.

THE ASCOT CUP was won, on Thursday, by Mr. Cartwright's Ely, after a dead heat with Lord Glasgow's General Peel.

A DISCOVERY made by a smith at Versailles is much talked about among horse-dealers. It is a composition almost as hard as iron, which can be applied under the hoof without causing the animal the slightest pain, and costs 75 per cent less than ordinary horseshoes.

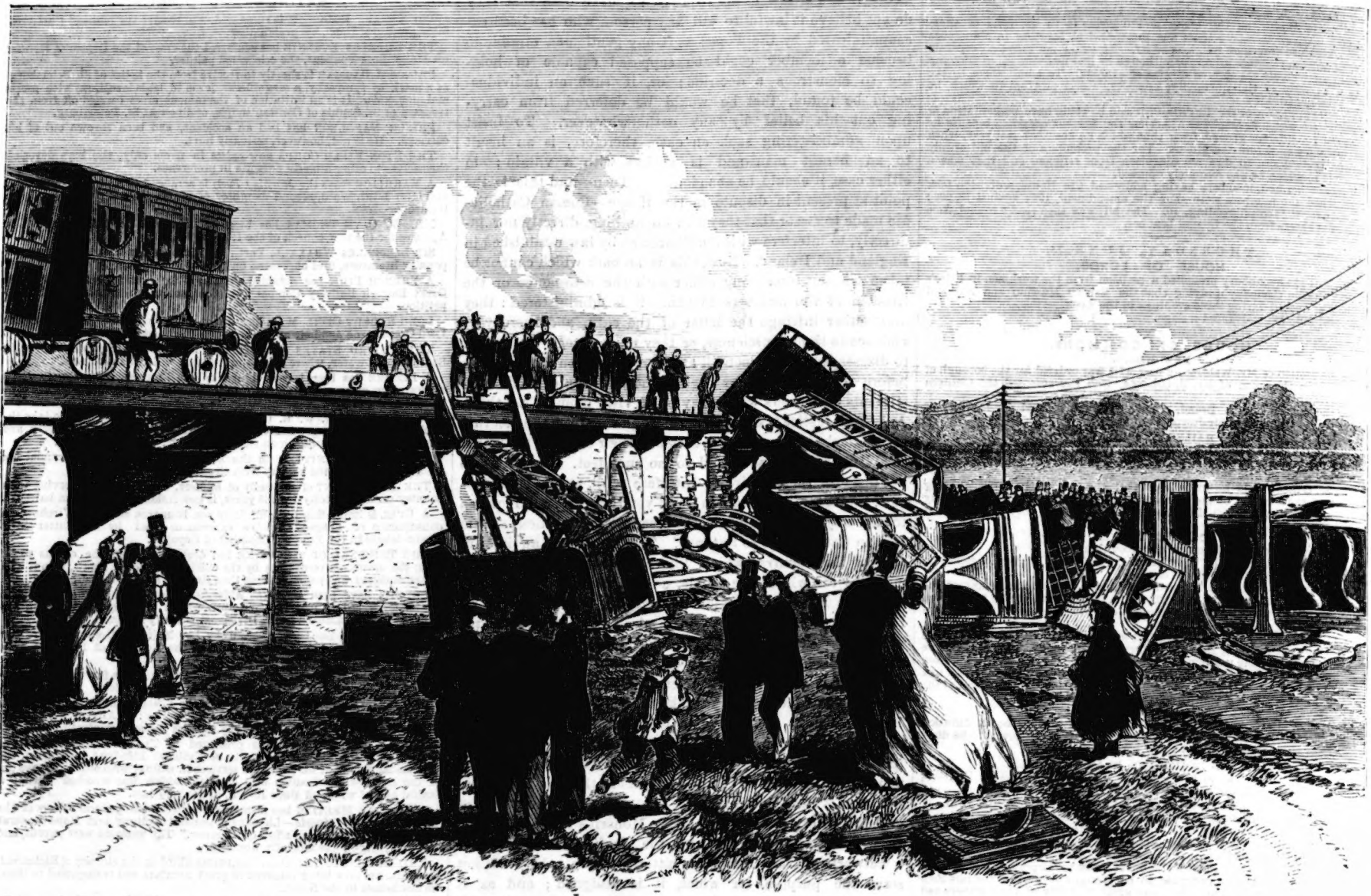
ABOUT A MONTH AGO a banker's clerk lost a case from his person containing about £8000 in bills and cheques, together with some bank-notes. No trace was had of them till the other day, when one of the bills was presented at the London and Westminster Bank, where it was identified as one of the missing documents. It was traced to a tailor in the City, on whose premises the rest of the missing notes were found. The tailor is in custody.

THE LANGHAM HOTEL was opened to a widely-extended list of friends of the directors on Saturday. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, with the Prince of Leiningen, visited the building in the course of the day, and between three and six o'clock the hotel was thrown open to about 2000 people; and it may give an idea of the colossal style of this addition to London hotels if we say that even this large crowd were able to move about the apartments without crowding or inconvenience.

SUICIDE IN A RAILWAY-CARRIAGE.—On Monday afternoon a shocking suicide took place in a first-class carriage of a train proceeding from Victoria station to the Crystal Palace. As the train was passing through the tunnel close to the station a lady and gentleman, seated in a first-class carriage, were startled by hearing a report as of a fog-signal, and on the train emerging to the light they discovered that a respectably-dressed young man, who happened to be in the same compartment with them, had shot himself, and was quite dead. He appeared to be a foreigner.

TESTIMONIAL to MISS LOUISA ANGEL.—On the termination of a recent successful engagement at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, a testimonial was presented to this favourite actress in the shape of a massive gold bracelet set with emeralds, and a valuable gold necklet also set with emeralds, the bracelet bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Miss Louisa Angel by a few friends at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, as a mark of their esteem and in token of their sincere good wishes for her continued success. May, 1865." Miss Angel will return to the Haymarket Theatre early next month.

PAYING OFF THE AMERICAN DEBT.—We have published a communication from a respectable merchant of this city proposing a capital plan for paying off the national debt. It is that 150,000 persons contribute 20,000 dols. each for the purpose, making the round sum of three thousand millions, the total of our national indebtedness. We cordially endorse this project, and will take two shares—in other words, subscribe 40,000 dols. to carry it out. We shall make money by the operation, for we now pay from 35,000 dols. to 40,000 dols. Government taxes yearly. No doubt the Astors would take twenty shares. So might A. T. Stewart, Commodore Vanderbilt, and many other millionaires, and hundreds of others can afford to take one or more shares, so that the entire 150,000 shares can be subscribed in a marvellously short time. We therefore propose the immediate appointment of a committee to wait upon our moneyed men, and raise the required amount before the 1st of July next.—*New York Herald*, May 28.



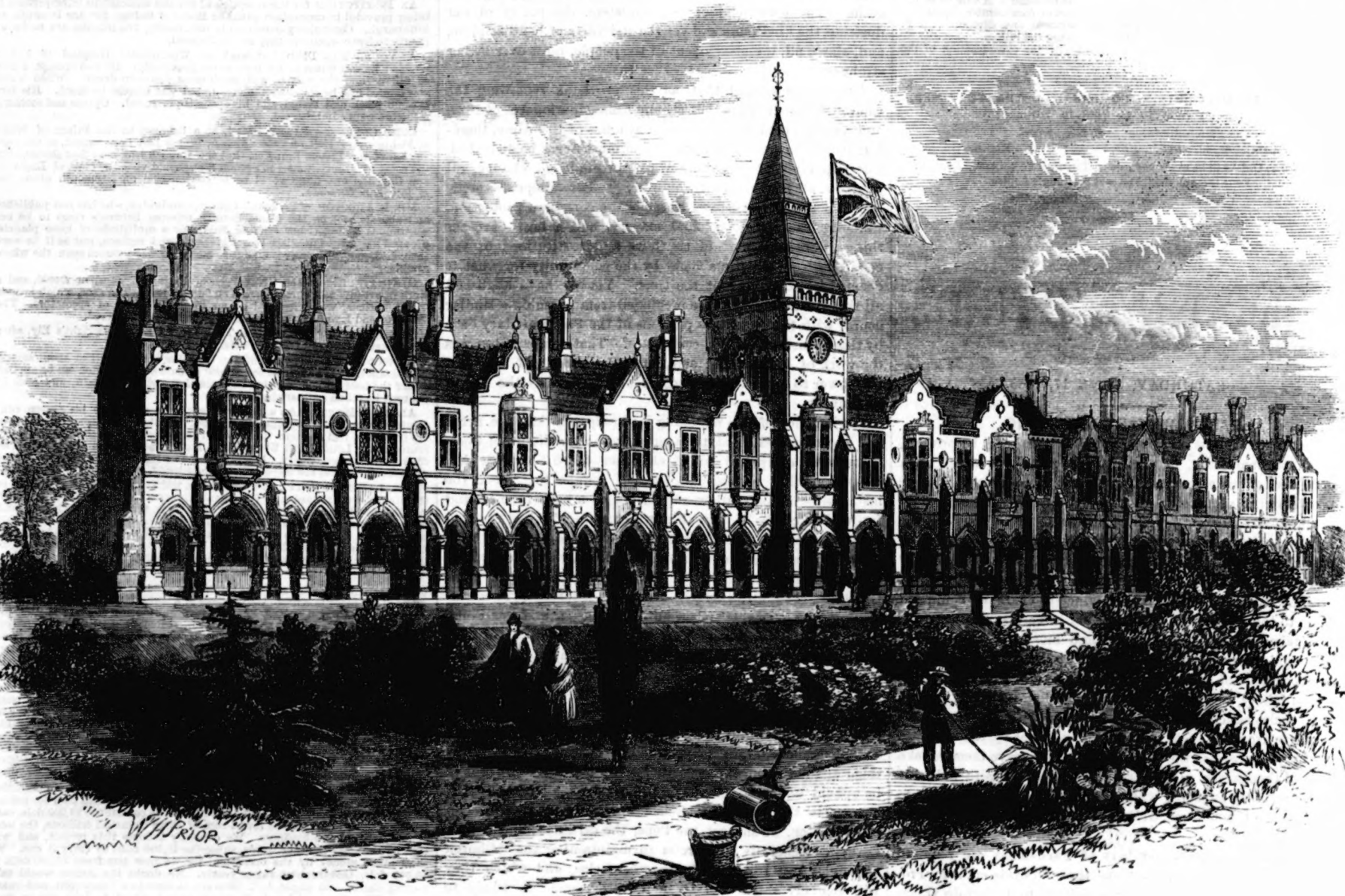
SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT AT STAPLEHURST, ON THE SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

DREADFUL CATASTROPHE ON THE SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

THE two fatal accidents on the Great Western Railway have been followed by one even more startling on the South-Eastern line. This accident, by which at least ten persons have been killed and twenty wounded, happened to the passengers by the tidal train which left Folkestone for London at half-past two on Friday afternoon week.

It is the first time that any casualty has befallen this particular train, notwithstanding that the hour at which it leaves Folkestone varies almost from day to day and that it travels at more than the average speed. On Friday week the tidal train, with about 110 passengers, many of whom had come from Paris by way of Boulogne, ran its usual even course until it had passed Headcorn and arrived at a bridge which is situated about a mile and a half from that station, and about an equal distance from Staplehurst. At this spot the railroad at each end of the bridge runs for a considerable way along almost a perfect level, and is raised only a few feet above the land on each side. The bridge itself, which is about 100 ft. in length, and which is supported by six stone piers, crosses a rivulet, which, when swollen by the rains of winter, flows in a considerable stream, but which is now nothing more than a muddy ditch overgrown with

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THE ROYAL DRAMATIC COLLEGE, MAYBURY, NEAR WOKING.



CONSECRATION OF DR. MANNING AS ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER IN ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL, MOORFIELDS.

weeds. The fall from the bridge to this ditch is about 15 ft.; the breadth of the ditch itself is about 50 ft.

On the day of the accident platelayers were employed in laying down new metals on the left-hand side of the bridge on the line to London, and at the end of it nearest Folkestone. Shortly after three o'clock, just before the accident took place, their task was still incomplete, and two lengths, or about 40 ft., of iron rail remained to be laid down on the side of the very track on which the train was advancing. They saw it hasten onward to destruction with fearful though somewhat abated speed, and in a few seconds more they saw nine or ten out of the fourteen carriages of which, inclusive of the break, luggage, and guards' vans, it consisted, precipitated headlong, with their human freight, over the side of the bridge into the ditch beneath. Then ensued such a scene of agony and bewilderment as, happily, is but rarely witnessed. Assistance came with all haste, and it came in time to rescue some from positions of the utmost peril, but far too late to be of any use to others in whom life had been instantaneously extinguished in the first terrific crash. Those who were on the spot from the first, and those who came to it within a few hours after, describe the wreck which met their view as a sight perfectly appalling. At the end of the bridge next to Staplehurst the engine and tender lay partly turned over against a hedge. Immediately behind the tender stood the break-van, and a few paces back, suspended, as it were, from the top of the bridge, with one end buried in the ditch below, was a first-class carriage. At the other end of the bridge stood upon the line the guards' and luggage vans, which were in the rear of the train, and which were altogether uninjured. A little in front of them were two second-class carriages, with one end resting on the bridge and the other in the ditch, in just the same position as the first-class carriage already mentioned. Between these two extremes and all across the ditch, huddled and crushed and bruised into one another, lay the five or six first-class carriages which formed the centre of the train. Through their broken sides and shattered windows were to be seen protruding human legs, and arms, and heads, and from every one of them was to be heard the piercing cry of human suffering. In more than one carriage a wife lay dead, or on the point of death, by her unconscious or helpless husband. Some who survived, and who might recover from the injuries inflicted on them by the shock, were actually smothered in the liquid mud in which they were imbedded. One young lady, on being rescued from a position in which suffocation seemed imminent, was found to have been fearfully mangled, and had blood issuing profusely from her nose and ears. The faces of other passengers were so blackened and swollen and battered as to retain scarcely any traces of the human countenance. Some, on the other hand, escaped with barely a scratch; but there were few indeed in that heap of ruin who did not bring away with them some token of the tremendous ordeal through which they had passed. The work of extrication proceeded at first but slowly, but by six o'clock it was accomplished. Those passengers who were uninjured, or whose injuries were not so serious as to prevent their travelling, were at once dispatched to London. Some seventeen or eighteen others, whose sufferings rendered it dangerous that they should make so lengthened a journey, are being watched over with tender care at the residence of Sir H. Hoare and at other houses in Staplehurst and its vicinity. Ten persons at least have lost their lives owing to this sad catastrophe. Nearly all of them were dragged out of the ditch quite dead, two or three of them being in a dying state, and surviving a few brief minutes only. Seven of the ten were ladies, the majority of whom were wives, and comparatively young wives too. One of the ladies was the wife of a Liverpool merchant, named Rayner, who was on her way home from Paris, and who has left six children to mourn her untimely loss. Another was the wife of Mr. F. Bodenham, solicitor, of Hereford, who, with her husband, was returning from her wedding-tour. A third was the wife of a Mr. Whitby, who was anxiously awaiting her return to him by that fatal tidal train. A fourth is a Mrs. Condliff, whose husband lies severely injured at Staplehurst, and who, in moments of delirious wandering, fondly imagines she still lives. A fifth was Mrs. Faithfull, whose husband is said to be on his way home from India. The two remaining ladies are Miss Caroline White, late of Regency-square, Brighton; and a young lady, whose name is Beaumont. A foreign gentleman named Mercier, a Mr. Hampson, and a Mr. Dunn complete the list of victims. Mr. Charles Dickens had a narrow escape. He was in the train, but fortunately for himself and for the interests of literature, received no injuries whatever.

It simply remains for us to say a few words as to the cause of all this suffering and loss of life. It seems to be beyond all question attributable to the fact that a portion of the metal rail along which the trains run was not in its place, and that as a consequence, although the engine, tender, and break-vans, as it were, jumped the gap and ran for some way along the iron girder which lies parallel to the rails, the carriages generally were thrown out of their course and upset. Upon the charge of not having the whole length of rail duly laid down when the accident occurred, Henry Bengo, the foreman of the platelayers, is now in custody, and it is understood that he attributes his failure in this respect to the circumstance that he, by some mistake, took the statement in his time-book of the later hour at which the tidal train was expected to start on Saturday as having reference to the afternoon on which the accident occurred. But, independently of any remissness on his part, it will also be matter for investigation whether the platelayers while engaged in their work, having as usual displayed the danger-flag, the signalman, whose duty it was to hoist a similar flag as soon as he saw the train approaching, so as to enable the engine-driver to pull up in good time, was in his proper place, or whether, having been in the proper place and having hoisted the red flag, the engine-driver paid the necessary attention to the signal. The arrival of the train at Headcorn was, it appears, telegraphed in the ordinary way to Staplehurst, but then the platelayers midway between the two stations were not within reach of telegraphic communication. Whether their foreman is solely to blame, or whether others must share with him a great responsibility, will, no doubt, be elicited in the course of the investigation which has been entered upon by the Coroner of the district on the bodies of the victims.

THE ROYAL DRAMATIC COLLEGE.

THE Royal Dramatic College, at Maybury, of which we this week publish an Engraving, is an institution which specially commends itself to the approval of all who take an interest in theatricals and theatrical people; and who like to see those comfortably provided for who have in the heyday of life contributed to the pleasure of others, but who, from adverse circumstances, have been unable to make that provision for their declining years which is necessary to avert the conjunction of that proverbially ill-matched pair—old age and want. Every profession has its unfortunate members, and, of course, the histrionic is no exception to the general rule. There are "poor players" now as in the olden time; and to provide for these when no longer able to pursue their calling is the object of the Royal Dramatic College. It is true that, on the whole, society does not pay a niggardly price to its entertainers for their services. Taken altogether, perhaps, the Theatrical fraternity has no better reason than any class to complain of the "lack of pence;" nor, on the other hand, can actors be generally charged with neglect to provide against the time of failing powers and straitened means. They are so far from being, as a body, improvident, that they maintain two noble funds chiefly by their own contributions, while the calls upon those funds are not so heavy and so frequent as to overbalance the many cases of those actors and actresses who retire from the exercise of their vocation with a competency, or at least with an independency. Still, the fact remains that there are, and must be, very many who, after a long struggle, succumb to age without having succeeded in saving so much of their life's earnings as will enable them cheerfully and tranquilly to await the closing scene. For these it is well that generous thought

should be taken. For these a retreat such as the college of Maybury is rightly designed; and the act of the Prince of Wales, a few days ago, in ceremonially inaugurating the common hall of the building, which faces the South-Western Railway, and forms so picturesque an object viewed from that line, will have been watched, we are sure, with as much interest on the part of thousands before the curtain as of hundreds behind it.

Perhaps we cannot better explain the objects and history of the college than by printing the address presented to the Prince of Wales on the occasion to which we have referred, and which is as follows:—

May it please your Royal Highness,

Five years ago, on the 1st of June, 1860, close to this spot, your Royal Highness's illustrious father, the late revered Prince Consort, laid the foundation-stone of the building which is to-day happily inaugurated by your Royal Highness. Upon that memorable occasion the illustrious Prince said that the Royal Dramatic College would confer a benefit upon the public as well as upon the stage, by aiding a profession from which the community at large derived rational entertainment, in which popular amusement was combined with moral instruction and intellectual culture.

Sir, these golden words are treasured amongst the highest incentives which, from that time to the present, have stimulated our exertions in carrying out the design of the institution. We have sedulously endeavoured to establish the Royal Dramatic College on such a basis as would have justified the approval of the illustrious Prince your father.

We have the satisfaction, Sir, to be able to say that the design which your Royal father approved has not been in the slightest particular departed from, and that, by steady perseverance, we have already succeeded in effecting the main purpose of the institution.

Three objects were contemplated in the erection of this college—a retreat for aged and infirm members of the dramatic profession; schools for the education of the children of actors and writers for the stage; and a central hall, which should embrace a library and gallery for the collection of works of art and literature illustrative of the English drama.

The first of these objects is accomplished; for the second, funds are in course of accumulation; the third, which crowns the edifice, your Royal Highness is now about to dedicate to the use for which it was designed.

Amongst the numerous benevolent institutions which abound in this country, there is none more deserving of generous support than the Royal Dramatic College. The actor, who is the interpreter of the poet in his gayest and in his gravest moods, and who imparts to the drama that vital grace and expression which brings out its passions and emotions in a palpable life, possesses peculiar claims upon the sympathies of the public. His rewards are precarious; his fame is ephemeral; and when his faculties fail he passes from the bright footlights into oblivion. Here we hope to afford him rest and comfort in old age, where, no longer fretted by the outer battle of life, he may serenely look "through the loopholes of retreat."

To see the stir
Of the great Babel, and not feel the crowd.

Here, too, we hope to preserve the records and personal relics of his profession, so that when the actor is seen no more the memorials of his art shall survive him.

The stage of this country owes your Royal Highness a large debt of gratitude for the constant interest you have taken in its progress; and, by extending your favour to the Royal Dramatic College, your Royal Highness has not only bestowed an important boon on the whole dramatic profession, but materially elevated its title to public respect and support.

Upon your Royal Highness properly devolves the task of bringing to a successful conclusion the noble work whose foundations were laid by your illustrious father, and whose objects her gracious Majesty, your Royal mother, has thought worthy of her patronage. We thank you for it from our hearts. May the work, which you have this day inaugurated, prosper! and may your Royal Highness live long to witness its happy fruits!

The Prince has sent a donation of fifty guineas to the funds of the College, accompanying the gift with an expression of his entire approval of the arrangements for the inauguration of the Central Hall, on the occasion referred to above.

CONSECRATION OF DR. MANNING.

DR. HENRY EDWARD MANNING, once Archdeacon of the diocese of Chichester and a leader among the many eminent men who followed the Tractarian movement, was formally consecrated at Moorfields Chapel as Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, on Thursday, the 8th inst. The stately ritual of the Romish Church was observed in all its solemnities to do honour to this occasion. Abbots and bishops, heads of religious houses, and ladies superior of convents assisted at the ceremony, which was as magnificent and impressive as only the Romish Church could make it. The installation, in its publicity and open magnificence, contrasted strangely with the almost furtive ceremony which marked the introduction of Cardinal Wiseman to his diocese of Westminster. Nor was the occasion less suggestive to those who were present at the last great solemnity at Moorfields, when the church was darkened and hung with black, and the only lights which shone were those round the bier of the Cardinal.

Visitors were admitted to the chapel soon after nine o'clock, and, though a great number had obtained tickets and the crowd was large, yet the arrangements were excellent, and all passed to their seats without confusion. The interior of the chapel was impressive in the extreme. Aglio's fine picture of the Crucifixion—almost the only great painting which delineates the turbulent riot of that great sacrifice—showed with wonderful effect, like a dreadful panorama, behind the high altar. On each side of the door, at the entrance, special pews had been erected for the friends of Dr. Manning and for invited guests; while, as on the occasion of the Requiem Mass for the late Cardinal, seats at the right and left of the high altar, but outside the sanctuary, were reserved for the Ambassadors and for the Roman Catholic members of the nobility.

On the left of the high altar the archiepiscopal throne, of crimson silk, was erected, and in front of it, on the right, was the small altar, laden with massive silver candelabra, at which the "elect" was to offer up what is termed the "sacrifice of the new law"—that is, the "Mass," till such time in the ceremony as he should go to the high altar, and, together with his consecrator, receive communion. The high altar itself was adorned with the most massive plate, silver and silver-gilt. Between the six tall heavy candlesticks were vases of silver filled with flowers. The chalice, paten, and other vessels used at the celebration of the mass were all of solid gold, profusely enriched with brilliants, emeralds, rubies, and pearls. This magnificent service was presented by Pope Pius VII. on the opening of Moorfields Chapel. The chalice, which is a rare work of art, originally came from Mexico, whence it was sent as a present to one of the Popes of the Middle Ages. All around both the high and the side altars was richly carpeted, the only space left bare in the centre being where a monumental slab was inserted in the pavement in memory of Cardinal Wiseman.

On the left of the tablet, in the crown of one of the side arches which may be said to form the aisles of the church, hung the scarlet hat of the late Cardinal. It may be stated that these cumbersome badges of ecclesiastical office are never seen or shown in public, the only occasions on which they are used being when conferred by the Pope, or when placed on the coffin after the death of their recipients. It is always, however, customary to hang the hats of deceased Cardinals in the cathedral church of their diocese, and thus the hat of Nicholas Wiseman hangs in his pro-cathedral of Moorfields.

Being the Feast of Pentecost, when the vestments used in the Church of Rome are crimson and gold and white, all the interior of the church was draped in those colours. The columns were swathed in crimson hangings bound with wreaths of white roses; the windows were dimmed with crimson blinds; and the organ-loft was hung with scarlet, emblazoned with white Maltese crosses. In the seats reserved for the diplomatists, on the right of the altar, all Ambassadors and Ministers of the Catholic Powers were present—the French, the Austrian, the Belgian, the Italian; and with them, too, was Baron Brunnow, the Russian Ambassador. Among the congregation also, but nearer to the altar, were grouped, in picturesque confusion, members of almost all the religious orders now in England—Passionists, Capuchins, Benedictines, Augustinians, Franciscans, Brothers of St. Vincent de Paul, Oratorians, Oblates, Dominicans, Redemptorists, nuns, Sisters of Charity, and Sisters of Mercy.

Soon after ten o'clock the long file of bishops, canons, doctors of divinity, and priests filed in solemn array from the sacristy, where, in the presence of his suffragans, the oath to observe and maintain his faith had been duly administered to Dr. Manning. All the titular Roman Catholic Bishops of England, with the exception of those of Liverpool, Shrewsbury, and Hexham, were present, and all wore the gorgeous episcopal vestments of their Church. With

them were Bishops Morris, Regan, Warring, Dr. Newman, and the Provincial of the Jesuits. The consecrator was Bishop Ullathorne, of Birmingham, assisted by Dr. Browne, Bishop of Newport, and Dr. Turner, Bishop of Salford. The assistant priest was Dr. Gilbert; the deacon, Father Pike; the sub-deacon, the Rev. James Hussey. The mass chosen on this occasion was that known as "Pope Marcellus's Mass," a mass composed by Palestrina, but rarely performed. The ritual for the consecration of a Bishop is, so to speak, inserted in the service of the mass, which on these occasions is jointly celebrated by the chief consecrating Bishop and the Bishop to be consecrated. The service began by reading the letters apostolic directing the consecration to proceed, during which Dr. Manning sat near his altar, with Dr. Browne and Dr. Turner on each side. The profession of faith, which had been commenced with the oath in the sacristy, was continued and concluded, and Dr. Manning commenced his mass at the side altar. Little departure took place from the ordinary ritual till the Archbishop elect prostrated himself at the foot of the altar, while the consecrator placed the book of the Gospels between his shoulders and proceeded to anoint his head and hands with the holy chrism, amid the chanting of the magnificent hymn, "Veni, Creator." As the last tones of this magnificent anthem died away, the still more touching psalm "Ecce quam bonum" was sung; and the consecrator delivered to the new Archbishop his pastoral staff and ring and the Gospels, which had been removed from his shoulders. After the gospel had been read, and Bishop Amherst had delivered a short discourse on the influence of the Holy Spirit, mass was continued to the offertory, where the new Archbishop presented his consecrator with the offerings which have been made for long centuries past—two wax candles, two loaves, and two barrels of wine. Both the new Archbishop and his consecrator then proceeded to the high altar, where, amid a silence which was broken only by solemn chants, which at last died away as the shrill tinkle of the gold bell announced the consecration to be at hand, each prelate partook of the sacrament together from the same host and from the same chalice. The service then proceeded as usual to its conclusion, and after the benediction, the mitre and episcopal gloves were bestowed, and the new Archbishop conducted to his throne, while the choir sang a "Te Deum," and the other bishops stood around him uncovered. During the chanting of this great hymn of praise the Archbishop gave his solemn benediction to the congregation in the accustomed way, and, passing to the epistle side of the altar, received from his consecrator the kiss of peace. With this formality terminated the religious ceremony which made Dr. Manning the second titular Archbishop of Westminster.

PASTORAL LETTER OF ARCHBISHOP MANNING.

THE first pastoral letter of the newly-ordained Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster was read on Sunday last in the various Roman Catholic churches and chapels of the diocese. Part of it is as follows:—

In such a land as this, and in the midst of such spiritual confusions, the mere enunciation of the one holy faith, out of which is no salvation, is sharp and wounding to the susceptibilities and prejudices of men. But in this we have no choice. "A necessity lieth upon me, for woe is unto me if I preach not the Gospel." They will impute to you the sharpness which belongs to your message. Speak as you will, with the gentleness of St. Francis of Sales or the sweetness of St. Philip Neri, they will arraign you of bitterness. Only let us, then, give no occasion by personal heat, or biting words, or asperity of tone. Charity and patience, with an inflexible witness to the presence and voice of a Divine Teacher, who calls on all men to submit as disciples to his guidance, will at last win souls on whom all the gifts and cultivation of the natural order fail powerless. We have this encouragement—the work of God in England cannot be stayed. "Verbum Dei non est alligatum." "The word of God is not bound." No chains can bind it—no human will arrest its expansion. The perfect revelation of the day of Pentecost, with its proper motives of credibility, has once more fairly entered into the intelligence of the English people. It is possessing itself gradually and irresistibly of a large sphere in public opinion. It manifests itself not only to those who day by day submit to it in faith, but even to those who hesitate, gainsay, resist, and reject it. A generation ago, who ever heard of the Catholic doctrine but a few retired men among their books, or here and there some simple person converted as by a special providence of God? Not so now. The work of the faith in England is not the work of individuals upon individuals, but of the Church upon the intelligence of Englishmen. Multitudes who are separated from the Catholic Church, and actively opposed to it, are daily becoming conscious of its presence, of its voice calling them to faith, of its doctrines—above all, of its unity in the midst of their divisions, and of its expansion in the midst of the advancing dissolution of all other religious systems. It is surely by a disposition of the Divine Head of the Church that in the heart of the nineteenth century, when both the intellects and the wills of men have reached an excess of unbelief and of license in matters of revelation, of morals, and of politics, that the Vicar of our Lord, the teacher of all Christians—as the Council of Florence entitles him—should, twice in these last years, have spoken with the voice of infallible truth; thereby testifying not only to the singular prerogative which, as the first fruits of grace, was bestowed upon the Immaculate Mother of God, and to the great constructive principles of morality and jurisprudence on which the Christian world is founded, but also to the perpetual assistance of the Spirit of God, by whose light the Church and its Pontiffs, in all ages, now as in the beginning, discern and declare the limits of falsehood and of truth. The dogmatic bull of the Immaculate Conception, and the encyclical of last year, will, we believe, mark an epoch in the reconstitution of the Christian order of the world. The wise and learned may deride us. We can well afford to wait till the derision of the nineteenth century is buried with the heresies of the last eighteen.

Nor is it in the intellectual order alone that the Catholic faith is invading the mind of our country. It is penetrating even more deeply into the spiritual consciousness of the people. Let a handful of unreasonable pietists or antiquated controversialists say what they will, the English people do not believe us to be idolaters nor anti-Christians. Our churches are open to them. They have seen the divine worship of the holy mass with their own eyes, and heard the words of our pastors with their own ears. There is a widespread reaction from the traditions which the blindness and deafness of religious prejudice have so long propagated.

Since the end of the last century there has been a profound reawakening of the minds of men. With some little extravagance, indeed, the religious sense of England has been stirred into an earnest belief of the eternal truths. Men are looking about for a guide in the way of salvation; for a teacher to whom they may intrust their souls; for a Church which knows what it means and means what it says; for a hierarchy which is not divided; for a keeper of holy writ who guards every jot and every tittle of the sacred books; for an interpreter who does not contradict himself; for pastors who, day by day, in all the world, absolve sinners in the confessional, but require confession of sin by a divine and universal law as a condition of absolution; for a deep interior, evangelical life, after the pattern of the Gospel, when men, taking Jesus at his word, sold all that they had and followed their Master; for a religion which is one and the same in every place and in every nation under heaven; in perfect harmony with itself, the only perfect interpretation of the Holy Scripture, in all its commandments, precepts, and counsels, and therefore the only scriptural religion.

It will not long be doubtful where these things are alone to be found. When another generation has effaced the scars of old prejudices, it is certain that the common-sense, just judgment, and straightforward manliness of Englishmen will turn to the only voice in the midst of them which never falters, to the only system which is coherent and true to itself.

But we must never forget that, over all these intellectual and spiritual currents of the natural order, there is a supernatural ministry of grace and power, disposing all things for the sake of the elect. Lights, inspirations, impulses, penetrating fears of the Divine Presence, drawings and benedictions of the Divine love, are ever at work upon the intelligence, the heart, the conscience, and the will of this great people. Truth seems to hang in the air, and to descend by no discoverable law upon individuals and households, in seasons the least looked for, and in ways the least foreseen. What is all this, reverend and dear brethren, but the grace and visitation of Him who shed His most precious blood for the souls which crowd and die in this great city? We are workers together with him: a mission arduous but blessed. To save one soul is reward enough for a life of toil; to gather many into life eternal is beyond all we dare to ask. And yet it is promised to us:—"They that are learned shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that instruct many to justice as the stars to all eternity." Happy are they to whom this work of grace and peace has been committed, as to you. And happy are we in knowing that day by day, at all hours, we may say day and night, often without the rest necessary for health and life, you are labouring for the salvation of the flock for which we must give account. Though most unworthy to be set over you, yet, God be witness, we have no more heartfelt and fervent desire than to live and labour to the end as we have in the years that are past, feebly indeed, but gladly, "spending and being spent" with you for the souls for whom Christ died.

THE DEATHS among non-commissioned officers and privates of her Majesty's forces in the three Indian Presidencies last year were as follow:—Bengal, 843 (the mean strength being 41,223); Madras, 257 (mean strength, 12,800); Bombay, 192 (mean strength, 12,153). The numbers invalided and discharged were:—Bengal, 2,264; Madras, 745; Bombay, 876.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

LORD ROBERT CECIL is no more—that is to say, he is no more Lord Robert Cecil, but Viscount Cranbourne, succeeding, by the death of his elder brother, who died on Wednesday, to this title; and also to the heirship of the marquise of Salisbury, and the estates thereto belonging. The late Lord Cranbourne has long been totally blind and a confirmed invalid, but his death was not thought to be near. Lord Robert was in the house on Wednesday against the Oxford Tests Bill, little thinking whilst he was speaking that his brother lay dead at Hatfield House. News of this event reached him about half an hour after he had spoken; and, of course, he hurried away without voting. Viscount Cranbourne was never seen in public, and was but little known. Indeed, most people knew not that there was such a person. His Lordship was forty-four years old, the present Viscount is thirty-five, the Marquis of Salisbury is seventy-four.

Mr. Guesen got an unexpected victory on Wednesday. It was believed by both sides that the second reading of his Oxford Tests Bill would be defeated, but it was carried by sixteen. The bill, however, will, I think, get no further this Session. Certainly not if the Opposition to it should be studiously maintained; for the Wednesday are all bespoken, Government cannot spare a night for it, and to attempt to carry it through Committee at the end of a night would be futile in the front of a determined opposition. This bill, or the like of it, was carried last year to the very last stage, and was then lost. It was read a third time, if I remember rightly, by the casting vote of the Speaker, and was rejected by a majority of two on the question "that this bill do now pass." This was, as far I know, an unprecedented case. I do not believe that a bill was ever before rejected at this final stage. If the bill should be carried through the Commons this Session it will be thrown out in the Lords.

The Metropolitan Sewage Bill, after having been several times nearly wrecked, has passed through both houses, and the sewage of London is to be conveyed to Maplin Sands—that is to say, the main flow of it, for there will be means taken to furnish the farmers on the line of its course with what they may require. Fancy Maplin Sands transmuted into soil growing rich crops of huge grass! One would hardly think this possible; but similar sands have been thus changed, and Messrs. Napier and Hope are confident that they will be able to do so to change these. And no doubt the thing is possible; but will it be a profitable speculation? To this the promoters of the measure give also a confident reply. Indeed, the opponents of the measure assert that the promoters have got too good a bargain. This was the ground of opposition. Their testimony went to show that this sewage is worth a fabulous sum. I have said that more than once this bill was well nigh wrecked. I am told that it was in great danger when it got to its final stage, and but for the exertions made by the solicitor to the bill—who, having some influence in the religious world, brought it to bear and secured the attendance of a certain noble Earl, who reigns supreme there, and his friends—it would have come to grief. Curious to see Exeter Hall move to the rescue of a sewage bill. And how came the Prince of Wales to come down to give his first vote, by-the-way, for this bill? Let us hope that the muse of History has not forgotten to note down in her tablets this odd historic fact.

I may, however, mention that his Royal Highness is not like other Royal Highnesses whom we, in our youthful days, used to hear of. They lived a life much more secluded from the people—especially his Royal Highness George Frederick Prince of Wales—than our gracious Prince does. He walks about, without pomp or ceremony, like any other English gentleman. He passes now in and out the House of Commons, unnoticed, and may be seen at times chatting in the inner lobby with a friend so familiarly that, if you were told that the Prince was there and did not know him, you would never guess which was the heir to the throne and which the mere subject. Well, this is as it should be. There is no doubt still a divinity that doth hedge a Prince, but it lies not in ceremony and etiquette and other conventional fancies.

Is not that a fine idea of the Emperor Napoleon's to have his fleet visiting our coasts, ours visiting his, and then both meeting in the Channel off Plymouth and finishing the cruise by a grand naval review? Truly, we see strange sights in these days, and this will not be the least strange of all. The Prince of Wales, it is said, will be present at the review. Could not Napoleon III. spare time to run across in his yacht, and so complete the grand spectacle he has suggested? The British and French fleets paying compliments to each other in the presence of the ruler of the one country and of the heir to the Crown of the other would be an event indeed. Shades of Harry V. and the Dauphin Charles, of Bedford and Joan, of the Black Prince and King John of France, of Rodney and De Grasse, of Nelson and Villeneuve, what say you to this interchange of courtesies! It was in another fashion you were wont to meet each other. Well, we in these days have the best of it. If powder must be burnt, better to do so in friendship than in enmity. When this great meeting takes place next month, may I be there to see!

I am loth to raise my voice against an apparently good object, but I dislike to see even a good object promoted by unworthy means and from selfish motives. It is a good thing to commemorate the great services Richard Cobden rendered to his country, and no doubt it would be a good thing to restore to vigour the almost effete grammar-school at Midhurst; but I can't help condemning the mean selfishness of certain inhabitants of that town, who wish to make capital for the place out of Cobden's name and the gratitude the people of this country feel towards him. These men of Midhurst are pertinaciously writing letters to the daily journals insisting upon it that the best tribute the general public of Great Britain can pay to the memory of the great free-trader will be to repair their dilapidated school-house and endow a master or masters to teach their sons grammar gratis. How very exalted an estimate these gentlemen must entertain of Cobden's labours, and how exceedingly disinterested are their efforts to perpetuate his memory! Faugh!

How very orthodox some of the electors of Westminster must be! I don't mean in regard to religion only, but everything. Mr. John Stuart Mill has been heartily abused because he is supposed to be somewhat heterodox on questions of faith and on the true principles of succession to property. But that was natural, for people who don't think, and can't think, are sure to denounce those who do think, and whose thoughts the non-thinkers can't understand. A new point of orthodoxy, however, has been started in Westminster. No man, it seems, is fit to represent that constituency who is unsound in his medical faith, or has the slightest leaning towards the great heresy of Hahnemann. "Allopathy for ever!" and "Down with Homoeopathy!" ought to be rallying cries in Westminster. So, at least, says a certain Dr. Tweedie, who has ordered his name to be withdrawn from the list of Captain Grosvenor's committee, because the honourable candidate has failed to satisfy Dr. Tweedie that he is not tainted by a relief, however infinitesimal, in homoeopathy. And in this notion Dr. Tweedie is supported by some at least of his professional brethren. Here is what the *Lancet* says on the subject:—"Is Captain Grosvenor a supporter or not of homoeopathy? If he supports the heresy it is a duty to oppose him; for it is well known that the promoters of that delusion regard us as not only in the wrong, but as practitioners of a calling which is dangerous, if not fraudulent, to the public. As a profession, we can have no faith in the political wisdom or legislative fitness of a man who, on questions of medical and sanitary legislation, stands on the senseless platform of the homoeopathic delusion." "Political wisdom" and "legislative fitness" dependent on belief or non-belief in homoeopathy! "Good Lord! what fools these mortals be!" What would the "profession" say to a candidate who believed neither in allopathy, homoeopathy, nor doctors of any kind? The throne, the constitution, law, liberty, trade, commerce, Lord John Manners's cherished "old nobility"—everything—would of course go to wrack and ruin were such men intrusted with legislative functions. Railway directors need have no difficulty in choosing a means of communication in trains, if they really wish to find it. Numerous plans have been proposed for enabling passengers to communicate with guards of trains, several of which are deserving of

attention. And now Mr. Rock Chidley has invented a new kind of carriage, with an opening at each end and a covered platform over the buffers, so that when a number of carriages are coupled together in the usual manner they will form a saloon from end to end of the train, with a passage in the centre, along which the guard may traverse at his convenience, and have the whole train under command. Mr. Chidley's carriages are still divided into first, second, and third class, the separation of each being quite perfect. They have other advantages, but the one I have mentioned is the most important. The idea seems good; but how about the expense of substituting new for existing carriages? There's a rock ahead there on which, I fear, you will split Mr. Rock Chidley.

THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Mr. Byron's new comic drama of "War to the Knife" is a very pleasant little piece of singular construction. I should mention that it was brought out at the new PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE on Saturday last. The story runs thus:—Mr. Harcourt is a young married man who lives beyond his means and rather neglects his wife. Captain Thistleton is a sort of social bird of prey who has lent Harcourt money, and who has in his possession a love-letter from Mrs. Harcourt, written to him when that lady was a spinster and before she had met her husband, which he is unmanly enough to threaten to show her husband if she dares to exercise any influence against his (the Captain's) plans. Mrs. Delacour is a wealthy and fascinating widow with a weakness—for even widows have their weaknesses—for the ungallant Captain, who, however, has no weakness for her; and on her discovering his baseness, which she does by means of a confidential *life-a-lie* with Mrs. Harcourt, she resolves to possess herself of the compromising letter or—to put it melodramatically—perish in the attempt. To which end she persuades the Captain, who is a swell of the languid, sleepy sort, to take a narcotic, which the idiotic rascal believes to be a dose of quinine. The Captain sleeps, and during his slumber the widow possesses herself of the letter. Widows are accustomed to steal away their admirers' peace of mind: why not their pocket-books? And when one thinks that the larceny is committed in a drawing-room and from a good motive—But we must not stop to consider motives, or we shall condone bank frauds and assassinations. The arrival of one John Blunt, a young man from the country, and a friend of the Harcourts, brings Montgomery's bankruptcy and Thistleton's villany to a speedy crisis. The Captain shows himself in his true false colours, is at every point defeated by the single-minded, honest Blunt, and, at last, is called for by a couple of detectives for a little affair of a fraudulent bank scheme, the pilot to the officers being a greengrocer, named Nubley, to whom the Captain, in a moment of irritation, once administered a vigorous kick. Mr. John Blunt makes fierce love to the widow, and the curtain falls on the prospect of conjugal happiness for the Harcourts; of ditto ditto, or the reverse, as it may turn out, for Mr. and Mrs. Blunt; and immediate Woolwich, or Chatham, or Portsmouth, with Norfolk Island in the distance, for the traitor Thistleton. The action of the drama is rapid, its incidents are striking, and its dialogue is excellent. It never strives to soar above theatrical convention, and is a thoroughly dramatic and effective piece. It is pleasant to be able to congratulate an entire cast of characters, although it is a pleasure that the directors of London theatres seldom permit to us. Miss Marie Wilton was so vivacious, agreeable, and ladylike a widow that the author evidently felt that to permit the curtain to fall without her being betrothed for a second time would be a violation of probability and a personal reflection on the bachelors among his *dramatis personæ*. Miss Fanny Josephs, who personated Mrs. Harcourt, was, of course, supposed to be married before the commencement of the drama. Had it not been so, her appearance, voice, manner, eyes, and bonnet would have warranted the dramatist in espousing her to the *jeune premier* early in the first act. The elegant military candidate for an appointment at Botany Bay was capitally "got up" and acted by Mr. Sidney Bancroft; and a compliment is due to Mr. Dewar for his personation of the honest country cousin. The rest of the characters were well performed. The lion's share of applause was received, and deservedly, by Mr. John Clarke. If any person or persons have hitherto considered this excellent comedian *only* what is termed a burlesque actor, let them go to the Prince of Wales Theatre and see his impersonation of the cockney greengrocer, who is neither too honest nor too sober, but who attends evening parties as occasional waiter. He realises all that has been written on the fruitful theme of the union of coals, carrots, and sham butlerdom by Albert Smith, Thackeray, the writers in *Punch*, and Mr. Charles Dickens.

Having said that it is pleasant to congratulate the artists representing an entire *dramatis personæ*, it of course follows that it is equally unpleasant to find fault roundly, particularly when the peccant artists are ladies and gentlemen of deserved professional celebrity. Nevertheless, facts are stubborn things, and the wildest and most gushing admirer of everything and everybody would be unable to say that "Twelfth Night" is well played at the OLYMPIC. Mr. Edgar's Antonio, Mr. Soutar's Sir Toby Belch, and Miss Lydia Foote's Maria are the honourable exceptions to as bad a Shakespearean performance as has been seen for some years in London, and our Shakespearean performances, generally, are not such specimens of high art as to make us the wonder and envy of surrounding nations.

The new tragic play of "Geraldine," which was brought out at the ADELPHI on Monday night, is not likely, I think, to prove a success. It is too long, contains too little incident, and is written in that sort of blank verse that was considered the correct and instructive Elizabethan sort of thing thirty years ago, but which is not to the taste of the town at present. The period at which the action of the play is supposed to occur is uninteresting to modern audiences. Nowadays, no one cares a jot for Crusaders, knightly vows, Welsh harpers, hereditary curses, shaven monks, or "deeds of derring-do." Another radical fault of the play is that it contains but one good part—the heroine. After her there is an old Welsh harper and a villainous monk, which, though not feebly, are not strongly drawn. It is impossible to keep up the interest of a five-act play unless it contain several good parts—a fact of which the works of William Shakespeare give abundant evidence. "Leah" was an exception to this rule; but only an exception. The story of Geraldine might have furnished a good three-act drama, but no more. Miss Bateman acted the heroine with great sweetness, gentleness, and power. In the concluding scenes where opportunity was afforded her for the employment of vigorous declamation, the audience were roused to their customary demonstrations to their favourite artiste. Mr. Bateman, the father of Miss Bateman, made his first appearance in London as David of Ruthlin, the old Welsh harper, and displayed very considerable melodramatic power.

I see by an advertisement that a benefit is to be given to Mr. Leigh Murray at DRURY LANE, on the morning of Tuesday, the 27th, when the *crème de la crème* of the London theatres is to appear. Mr. Murray has for many years been a victim to ill-health; and is about to seek some southern climate, in the hope that a short sojourn will restore to him his wonted strength, and to us one of the few elegant *jeunes premiers* our stage can boast of. Next week I shall be able to make some mention of the programme put forth by Mr. Leigh Murray's committee. The performance is under the patronage of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales.

WAGES MOVEMENT IN THE LONDON BUILDING TRADES.—On Tuesday evening a numerously-attended meeting of delegates from the operative carpenters and joiners of London was held at Cambridge Hall, Newman-street, Oxford-street, to consider the propriety of adopting a memorial to the master builders of the metropolis, requesting an advance on the present rate of wages—35s. per week, or 7d. per hour. About a hundred delegates were present, representing the various carpenters' societies and the principal shops and jobs in the trade, both society and non-society men—in all, nearly 5000 men were represented. A memorial embodying the reasons for asking the advance was submitted, discussed, and adopted, and ordered to be presented to the masters forthwith.

THE RECENT VISIT OF THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH TO ALGERIA.

THE Emperor of the French has returned from his journey in Algeria improved in health, and apparently ready to undertake all those onerous duties which have been for some weeks awaiting his directing hand. His visit to the country part of which was so lately in a state of insurrection, will doubtless be attended with most beneficial results. He has throughout the arrangements, and even in the time and manner of his journey, exhibited that tact which has always been his most prominent characteristic. Our Engravings represent the scenes that occurred during the latter part of a journey which must necessarily exercise a great influence on the whole of the French Algerian possessions.

One of the most picturesque and striking of these occurrences was the descent from the mountains of the Caïda, with their wild retainers, who formed a native escort to accompany the Emperor on his journey to Medea. There is every reason to believe that Medea, which stands behind the first mountain chain of the Little Atlas, south of Algiers, is of Roman origin, as the Arab structures of the town contain several fragments of Latin inscriptions and of pottery and other ancient materials. Marmol calls it Mehedia, which is very like its Arab name, Mediyah. He describes it as an old town, built by the Romans, in a great plain at the foot of a high mountain; and asserts that it was formerly very populous, but that it was destroyed by a schismatic Khalif, who afterwards built a castle there and called it Mehedia, from his own name, Madhi. The remains of this castle, containing Roman materials still exist; while near the town is an aqueduct, supposed to be of Roman construction. The road between Blidah and Medea, through the lesser Atlas, crosses the river Chiffa sixty-two times. The engineers have surmounted apparently invincible obstacles, as the rocks approach so near in some parts as scarcely to leave room for a man to walk erect; and it was formerly impassable in the rainy season, being bordered on each side, for twenty miles, by steep mountains. Through these defiles the engineers have made a road, resting on a strong embankment confining the waters, and cleared by the blasting of the rocks. It was through the wild defiles, looking over a country rich in tropical vegetation, that the wild escort coming down from the mountains accompanied the Imperial party.

At Mostaganem a still more extraordinary scene presented itself. On the arrival of his Majesty and the Imperial suite at the hotel of the sub-prefecture, where apartments had been prepared, he at once took up his station at a window, whence he could inspect the troops as they defiled past. The cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" both from native Arabs and French colonists, were enthusiastic and incessant. The greatest attraction of the show was the troop of Spahis, belonging to the tributary chiefs, clad in their red bounouses and mounted on fiery horses decked with gorgeous scarlet trappings and richly caparisoned.

After this ceremony, many of the chiefs who have been faithful to the Imperial Government and a number of the colonists formed a sort of procession, with banners and decorations, the Arabs, especially, giving very audible expression to their enthusiasm. Mostaganem, so called from the sweetness of the mutton in the neighbourhood, is built in the form of an amphitheatre, with a fine sea view on one side, but with the other sides inclosed by the circuit of hills. The inhabitants have a tradition that the town is composed of several villages. In the middle of it are the remains of an old Moorish castle, erected, as would appear from its construction, before the invention of firearms. The north-west corner of the town, which overlooks part of a port and ditch, is surrounded by a wall of hewn stone, where there is another castle, more regularly built. Mostaganem was formerly so exposed to the attacks of Arab tribes from the hills behind it that its chief strength lay in the citadel, built on one of these eminences, commanding a fine view of the city and the surrounding country.

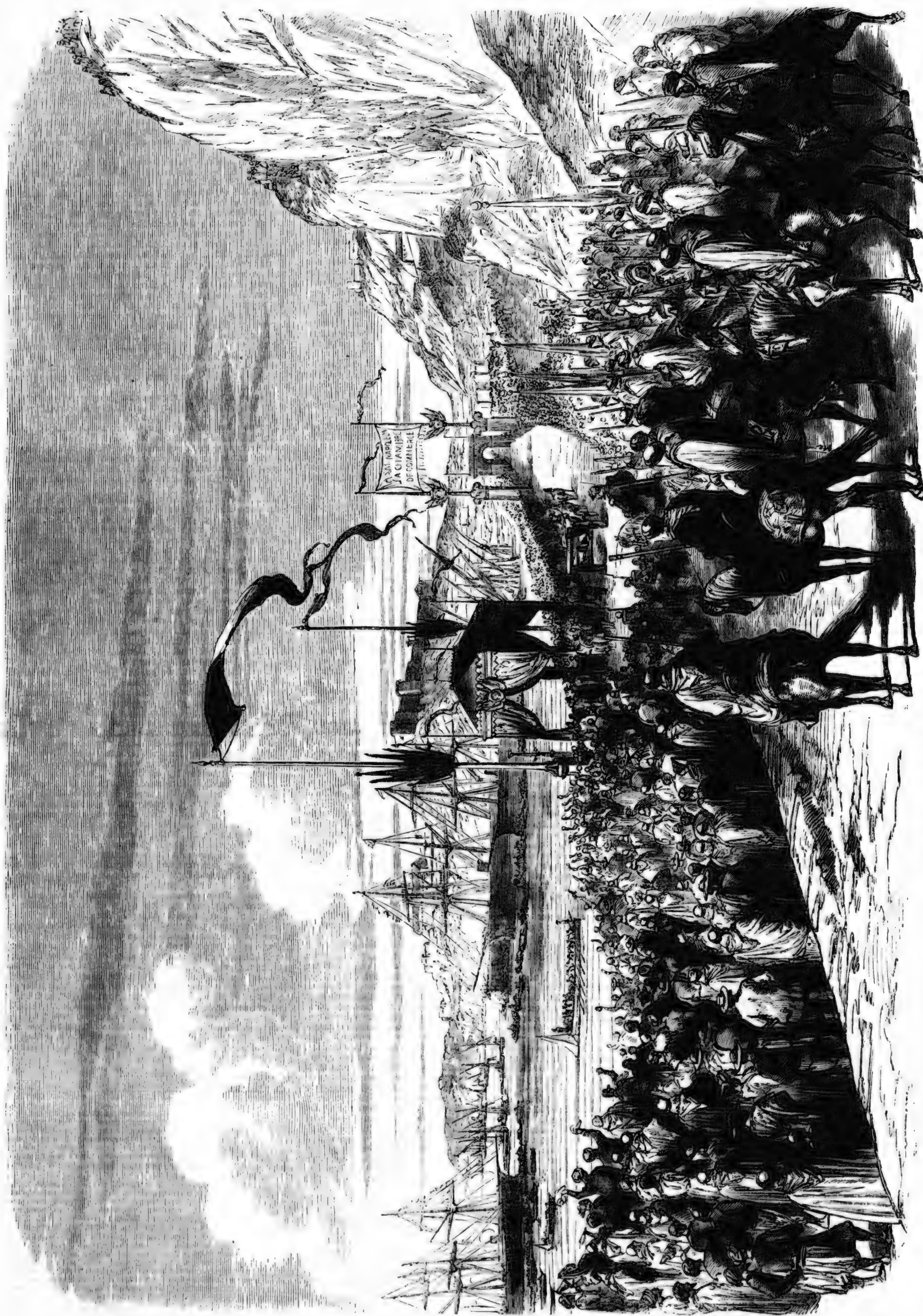
The crowning event of the Imperial journey was the reception of his Majesty at Oran, which is the subject of our larger Engraving. The batteries on the heights first announced the approach of the squadron which was doubling Cape Ferrat, and immediately all was activity in the city; the drums began to beat, and the troops and militia moved in order along the road where the Emperor would pass from the Admiralty to the Chateau Neuf. The whole population was in the streets, and the entire city was *en grande fête*.

Directly his Majesty landed the batteries fired salutes, and the whole scene was very striking when, amidst these flashes, the great sombre ironclads lay off the bare, bold, rugged headland. Triumphant arches had been erected on the Imperial route; but one of the most remarkable objects was a sort of colonnade, made by the workmen of the province and decorated most tastefully with flags and trophies. The triumphal arch erected by the Spanish colonists was also a very artistic affair, the flags of France and Spain falling from it in mutual folds. The country surrounding Oran presents a variety of pleasant prospects and shady retreats, numerous olive plantations, picturesque rocky precipices, and rushing rills of water; the position of the city itself is delightful, forming an amphitheatre along two banks of a shady ravine, commanded by the solid and lofty walls of the casbah. The appearance of the place is sufficient indication of its former importance, and the aspect of the inhabitants differs from that of other people in Algeria. The city, in fact, is built on two long plateaux, having a deep ravine between them, containing a river which turns several mills and supplies the city with water. The ravine between the two parts of the city was formerly occupied almost entirely by groves and gardens; but it has for the last few years been greatly built over, while the Moorish houses, the terraced roofs, and the broad, straight streets have been partly superseded by edifices of a more European appearance. Immediately after passing the point of Mona, Oran is before you; and when the traveller descends from the deck of his vessel the two groups of white houses (the old, or mother, town) bisected by a ravine dotted with pretty gardens in the form of an amphitheatre cut by tongues of land, whence a number of streams come gushing down, setting several mills in motion by the way, the eye dwells with pleasure on the charming features of the scene.

THE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT REDNAL.—The inquest on the bodies of the sufferers by the accident at Rednal was concluded on Saturday last. The jury found a verdict of "Accidental death;" but they appended to it a series of censures—first, on the Great Western Company for not providing better rolling stock and taking greater care of the way; next, upon the engine-drivers for neglecting signals and driving at too great speed; and, lastly, on the platelayers for neglect in the manner in which they did their work. Mr. Grierson, the manager of the Great Western Railway, briefly addressed the Court, and described the measures which the directors were taking to ensure the satisfactory working of the trains and the perfect safety of the passengers.

TERRIBLE DISASTER IN MOBILE.—A special despatch from New Orleans in the *Memphis Bulletin* contains the following particulars of a terrific disaster in Mobile:—"On the evening of the 24th inst., the main ordnance department in Marshall's warehouse, at Mobile, blew up with a terrible explosion. About 300 persons were killed and many wounded. Thousands are buried in the ruins. Eight entire squares of the city were demolished, and about 8000 bales of cotton destroyed. The steamers Colonel Cowles and Kate Dale, with all on board, were entirely destroyed. A great portion of the business centre is badly damaged. The total loss is estimated at three millions. General Granger rendered prompt relief to the sufferers. The cause of the explosion is uncertain. The ordnance stores, which were a portion of the munitions of war surrendered by Dick Taylor, were in course of removal when it occurred. The entire city is more or less injured by the explosion."

POLLUTION OF THE THAMES.—The conservators of the River Thames lately applied for an injunction against the Corporation of Kingston to restrain them from constructing a new scheme of drainage which would carry the whole sewage of the town into the river. This, the conservators contended, would create a nuisance. The Corporation pleaded the prescription of twenty years, and denied that the comparatively small volume of Kingston sewage discharged into the Thames would constitute a nuisance. Sir Page Wood gave judgment on Tuesday, and said that the town had no such prescriptive rights as it claimed, but thought, at the same time, a nuisance had not yet arisen, though he thought it would arise in time, and then the case might be brought forward again. He therefore dismissed the case, but without costs.



ARRIVAL OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON AT ORAN: SCENE AT THE DEBARKATION.



NAPOLEON III. IN ALGERIA: MANIFESTATION BY ARABS AND FRENCH COLONISTS AT MOSTAGANEM.



CHIEFS AND THEIR RETAINERS DESCENDING THE MOUNTAINS TO FORM AN ESCORT FOR THE EMPEROR TO MEDJA.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

THE representations of "Medea," interrupted last week by the illness of Mlle. Titiens, which, fortunately, was not of a grave character, are now being continued. The opera is admirably executed, and its success is confirmed by each succeeding performance. Cherubini's music is undoubtedly serious, and not a bar in the opera of "Medea" has been written for the mere sake of effect. The noble style which the subject imperatively demands is maintained throughout; but the work is not severe in an academic sense. It abounds in melodic beauty, and in the grand situations the music is so truly impressive that the amateur as well as the educated musician cannot fail to be affected by it. Two of the principal parts (those of Medea and Creon) are sung to perfection by Mlle. Titiens and Mr. Santley. The part of Jason is sung by Dr. Gunz, who has a loud voice but a defective mode of singing, which occasionally reminds us of Herr Wachtel's chest or throat performances. The minor parts are done full justice to by Mlles. Sinico, Laura Harris, and Redi. But it is the chorus that, above all, deserves unlimited praise. No such chorus has ever been heard at Her Majesty's, nor has it ever been heard to so much advantage as in "Medea."

The Monday Popular Concert of this week was for the benefit of Mr. Sims Reeves, who sang, in his usual admirable style, the grand air from "Jephthah," Beethoven's "Adelaide," and Blumenthal's "Message." Mlle. Arabella Goddard, after performing at the Philharmonic, and obtaining a success almost unprecedented at these concerts—where the audience, however discriminative, are generally not demonstrative—achieved a fresh triumph at the St. James's Hall in Sterndale Bennett's "Three Musical Sketches." The chief violinist was Herr Joachim, who, besides leading the concerted pieces, played Ernst's "Elegy" and Tartini's "Trille du Diable." Tartini, according to a well-known anecdote, dreamed one night that he had made a compact with Satan, who promised to be at his service on all occasions. During this vision everything succeeded according to his mind; his wishes were anticipated, and his desires always exceeded by the assistance of his new servant. He imagined that he presented the fiend with his violin, in order to discover what kind of musician he was; when, to Tartini's great astonishment, he heard him play a solo so singularly beautiful, and with such superior taste and precision, that it surpassed all the music which he had ever heard or conceived in his life. So great was Tartini's surprise, and so exquisite his delight, that it deprived him of the power of breathing. He awoke with the violence of his sensations, and instantly seized his fiddle, in hopes of expressing what he had just heard; but in vain. He, nevertheless, composed a piece, which is, perhaps, the best of all his works, and called it the "devil's sonata;" but it was so inferior to what his dream had presented, that he declared he would have broken his instrument and abandoned music for ever if he could have subsisted by any other means. How this sonata is played by Herr Joachim, those who have heard him need not be told. His execution is worthy of him whose name the sonata bears. The programme of this concert, which was varied and excellent, was gone through in unexceptionable style.

The concerts of the Musical Union are, on a somewhat smaller scale, quite as good as the "Monday Populars," the only difference as regards the character of the music performed being that at the former no vocal pieces are introduced. At the Musical Union matinees the best chamber music is executed by the first artists of the day. Thus the programme of last Tuesday consisted of Mozart's quartet No. 2, in D minor, Schumann's pianoforte quartet in B flat, Mendelssohn's quintet in B flat, and Handel's "Harmonious Blacksmith." The stringed instruments were in the hands of MM. Joachim, Ries, Webb, Hann, and Piatti; and Herr Jaell was the pianist. We have no precise information as to the mode in which the government of the Musical Union is carried on; but it is certain that the committee, which seems to be a species of parliament, possesses in certain matters something more than a consultative voice. It is entitled, we believe, to refuse its assent to the programmes submitted to it, but the right of initiation rests inalienably with the "Director and Founder of the institution." In the director's annotated programme, or *Musical Journal* for June 6, we find these words:—"Whenever we are left to use our own discretion in the choice of a programme, which is not always the case, we are rarely deceived as to the result." From this it is clear that the committee of the Musical Union is not merely an ornamental body. It enjoys the privilege of advising Mr. Ella as to the drawing up of his programmes, and, in spite of Mr. Ella's despotic protest, we believe it exercises this privilege judiciously. The next concert of the Musical Union takes place on Tuesday, June 20. The Monday Popular Concerts will be continued from week to week until July 3, when the last of the series for the present season will be given for the benefit of Mr. Arthur Chappell, the director.

A concert for the benefit of Signor Giuglini, who is now in a lunatic asylum, is announced at the Hanover-square Rooms. Full particulars have not yet been published.

MR. COXWELL'S NEW BALLOON "RESEARCH."—This stupendous specimen of aeronautic art has been constructed by the distinguished aeronaut, Mr. Coxwell, to replace his balloon which was destroyed, last year, at Leicester. It will contain about 30,000 cubic feet more than the great Nassau balloon, and is beautifully decorated, according to a design by Mr. Foot. It is composed of fifty gores of balloon cloth, specially manufactured for Mr. Coxwell's use. Each gore is about 105 ft. long, and is 44 in. wide at the equator. The cubic contents are stated to be about 112,000 ft. An ascent with it will shortly be made from the Crystal Palace grounds.

EUROPEAN ASSURANCE COMPANY.—The report of this company, read at the annual meeting a few days ago, states that the premiums on the new life and guarantee policies issued during the year amounted to £23,149 16s. 6d. In accordance with the recommendation of the shareholders at the last annual general meeting, the directors entered on the business of fire insurance in June last. The premiums received in this department amounted to £13,259 17s. 11d. The gross amount actually received in premiums during the year was £169,658 12s. 7d. The life and guarantee claims paid during the year, including bonus additions, amounted to £86,717 4s. 10d. The increase in the assets of the society during the year had been £52,925 18s. 10d. The union of this society and the British National Life Assurance Association had, under the advice and recommendation of Mr. Finlason, the Government actuary, been completed. The results of the union the directors felt must be regarded by the shareholders with great satisfaction. The subscribed capital is raised to upwards of £700,000, the number of shareholders to more than 1200, the annual income to upwards of £300,000, while the new premium income of the united companies for the year 1884 amounts to £46,507. The progress of the societies since the union had been highly satisfactory. The premium income derived from new business during the last two months was at the rate of more than £50,000 a year, an amount considerably in excess of that effected by the two societies in their separate condition, and the directors fully anticipated that this rate would be still further increased as the various agencies were brought into a greater degree of efficiency.

COUNT DE LAGRANGE.—This sportsman, whose name is, for the moment, a household word in England and France, is the only son of General Count Joseph de Lagrange, a former Peer of France and Minister to the King of Westphalia. He has three sisters—the Duchesse de Cadore, the Duchesse d'Estrie, and the Countess de la Ferronaye. His debut on the turf dates from the year 1856, when he purchased the stud of the late M. Aumont. Monarque was the first horse which carried its new owner's colours with success, and what is more singular, Monarque and Miss Gladiator, the sire and dam of Gladiator, were the first horse and mare that ran in the Count's name in England. The success which, from the first moment, attended the Count's new enterprise was due to the rare qualities by which he is distinguished. He neglects no detail, displays a remarkable activity in his personal superintendence, and handsomely rewards zeal employed in his service. Similar talents previously applied to agriculture had already attracted the attention of the Government, and in 1855 had procured for him a medal from the Imperial Commission. His stud in France at once acquired such importance that it soon became known as the "great stable." Not only have all the first prizes in France fallen to his lot, sometimes for several years in succession—the French Derby in 1858, 1859, and 1861—but in England also he has within a few years won the Goodwood Cup, the Newmarket and City and Suburban Handicaps, the Cambridge Stakes (for which his horses ran first and second), Oaks, Two Thousand Guineas, and Derby; in fact, with the exception of the St. Leger, every turf event to which any honour attaches has been won by his horses. His breeding establishment is kept up on his estate at Dangu (Eure), which consists of a noble residence and nearly 600 acres of fertile land, most picturesquely situated and sheltered from the north winds by an amphitheatre of hills. His stud here includes at the present moment five stallions, forty brood mares, thirty-six yearlings, and thirty foals of the present year, in addition to about sixty horses in training at Royal-Lieu, near Compiègne, and at Newmarket.

Literature.

History of the Sect of Mahārājas, or Vallabhachāryas, in Western India. Trübner and Co.

The purest creeds, the most admirable institutions, and the wisest laws, contain within themselves the elements of abuse, decay, and degeneration. See how the beautiful simplicity of our Christian religion has been confounded by commentators, rent by schism, perverted by priests striving for political power; see the hatred and malice that have sprung from a doctrine of peace and goodwill; the intolerance which assumes to represent a creed of universal charity; the arrogance that dominates over a faith of which humility is the main feature. What murder, pillage, and cruelty have not been committed in the name of Christ! what blind superstitions have not been evoked by the interested cunning of the few and imposed on the blinded understanding of the many! If we find among ourselves believers in Johanna Southcote, Mormonism, and other superstitions equally foolish, immoral, and infamous, it is not to be wondered at that there should, at this day, exist among the native inhabitants of Western India such a sect as that of which the book under our hand purports to be a history.

Originally founded on the basis of Hindoo religion, the sect in question speedily became, in the hands of a corrupt and licentious hereditary priesthood, the very hotbed of vile superstition and sensual practices. In order to the better understanding of the means by which this degradation was effected, it will be well to briefly sketch the character of the fundamental religion—that is, the Hindoo—the real doctrine of which is the unity and omnipotence of God. The laws—doctrinal and ceremonial—are comprised in eighteen principal volumes, all of which have a large family of either explanatory, commentarial, or illustrative offspring. It will be enough to discourage our readers from seeking for distinction in the field of Hindoo theology when we mention that "the celebrated Panini" managed to hang upon the skirts of one of these inferior volumes a treatise on Grammar, "in eight chapters, thirty-two sections, and three thousand nine hundred and ninety-six rules."

We cannot refrain from here quoting a hymn from one of the Vedas or principal books taken from Professor Max Müller's *Ancient Sanscrit Literature*, which for direct simplicity and fervid reverence is scarcely to be surpassed:—

"In the beginning there arose the Source of golden light. He was the only born Lord of all that is. He established the earth, and this sky:—Who is the God to whom we shall offer our sacrifice?"

"He who gives life, He who gives strength; whose blessing all the bright gods desire; whose shadow is immortality; whose shadow is death:—Who is the God to whom we shall offer our sacrifice?"

"He who through His power is the only king of the breathing and awakening world; He who governs all, man and beast:—Who is the God to whom we shall offer our sacrifice?"

"He whose power these snowy mountains, whose power the sea proclaims, with the distant river; He whose these regions are, as it were, his two arms:—Who is the God to whom we shall offer our sacrifice?"

"He through whom the sky is bright, and the earth firm; He through whom the heaven was established—nay, the highest heaven; He who measured out the light in the air:—Who is the God to whom we shall offer our sacrifice?"

"He to whom heaven and earth, standing firm by His will, look up, trembling inwardly; He over whom the rising sun shines forth:—Who is the God to whom we shall offer our sacrifice?"

"Wherever the mighty water-clouds went, where they placed the seed and lit the fire, thence arose He who is the only life of the bright gods:—Who is the God to whom we shall offer our sacrifice?"

"He who by His might looked even over the water-clouds, the clouds which gave strength and lit the sacrifice; He who is God above all Gods:—Who is the God to whom we shall offer our sacrifice?"

"May He not destroy us, He the creator of the earth; or He, the righteous, who created the heaven; He who also created the bright and mighty waters:—Who is the God to whom we shall offer our sacrifice?"

The Hindoo religion is now divided into a great number of sects—viz., the Vaishnavas, comprising twenty different worshipers; the Saivas, nine; the Sahtas, four; besides which there are ten others, as it were unattached to any of the preceding. This list is exclusive of inferior classes of dissenters. The sect with which we have to deal belongs to the Vaishnavas or worshippers of Vishnu. We subjoin an extract showing the early difficulties which beset the founder:—

In tracing it, however, to its spring-head and source, we shall find that the first teacher of the philosophical tenets upon which the present doctrines of the sect are founded was Vishnu Svāmi, who was a commentator on the texts of the Vedas. He was followed in his teaching by Dnāna Deva, who was succeeded by Kṛṣṇāchārya, and he by Hīrālā, who had six sons, the most distinguished of whom was Śrīdhara, who, after a time, was succeeded by Bilava Mangala, who strengthened the sect. Bilava Mangala was succeeded, but how soon is not known, by Vallabhachārya, who was the second son of Lakshman Bhatt, a Tālingā Brahman. This Lakshman Bhatt was descended from a Brahman named Nārāyan Bhatt, dwelling in a village called Kānkra, and was the fourth in direct descent from him. He lived somewhere about the commencement of the sixteenth century, but the particulars of the exact period are not preserved. He promulgated the idea, which the people, in their monstrous credulity and ignorance, put entire faith in, that he had been promised by Krishna that he should have three sons, and that his second son should succeed him as the incarnation of himself, the god. His wife's name was Elmagār, and the first son of the marriage was Rāma Krishna.

After the birth of this child, Lakshman Bhatt, taking his family with him, went on a pilgrimage, by the route of Allāhabād, to Benares, where, after dwelling some time, a violent dispute took place between the Muslims and the Sannyāsīs, which resulted in a bloody conflict. Lakshman Bhatt, apprehensive for the safety of his family, fled away with them. In the course of their flight through the country, they eventually arrived at a wild spot called Champārānya. The terror of the flight, combined with the wild savageness of the country through which they were fleeing, had the effect upon the intimidated Elmagār of accelerating labour, she being at the time pregnant with her second child; and in the wilderness of this entangled forest she gave birth to an eight-months' child, on Sunday, the 11th of Vaisāk Vidyā, Samvat 1535 (A.D. 1479).

In a work called *Nijvārta*, it is stated that when Vallabha was born in Champārānya, a palace of gold sprung up on the spot, and the gods from the heavens showered down flowers, the hours danced around, and the Gāndharvas (heavenly songsters) sang: divine music filled the air, and gods descended in vimān (celestial cars) to see the prodigy. Whether embarrassed by the encumbrance of this offspring, or prompted by confidence in the promise of Krishna that this infant should be his incarnation, and so trusting to his providential intervention to protect it, they forthwith abandoned it, placing it gently upon leaves in the shade of a wide-branched tree. Still pursuing their flight, they at length arrived at a place called Chowdā-nagar, where, after residing some time, intelligence at length reached them that quiet was completely restored at Benares, upon which they set out, to return to that place, and, taking purposely the route by which they had come, they speedily reached the spot where they had deserted their helpless infant.

Here they found their faith in the promise of Krishna verified, for they beheld the little creature alive and well, and playing in the midst of a flame of sacrificial fire, in a pit sunk on the spot. This miracle excited their hopes, and after some short repose and refreshment they resumed their journey, taking it with them to Benares, which they eventually reached.

At the early age of twelve, having already miraculously mastered "the whole of the four Vedas, the six Sastras, and the eighteen Purānas—an accomplishment which a mature scholar cannot hope thoroughly to acquire by the prolonged labour of a whole life"—he left his home and shortly afterwards made his debut in a religious disputation at the Court of one Krishna Deva, King of Vijayanagar, with a success that brought him friends, favours, and profit, on the strength of which he accomplished a grand tour of 12,000 miles in nine years, preaching and spreading faith in the god Krishna (or Vishnu), with a success that gave him the honour of a visit from that deity, during which interview he was enjoined to establish the worship of the Infant Krishna, whom the previous history would show to be himself. This he proceeded to do inconspicuously, and having made eighty-four devoted proselytes to his creed, which he called Pushti Marga, or the eat-and-drink doctrine (a small number, considering the attractiveness of the title), he "entered the Ganges and, when stooping in the water, passed out of sight. A brilliant flame arose from the spot and, in the presence of a host of spectators, he ascended to heaven and was lost in the firmament," at the age of fifty-two years and thirty-seven days, leaving two sons to fight for his succession, which ultimately fell to the second—Vilnothal. This last added 252 eaters and drinkers to the list, wrote their lives, travelled incessantly, and lived the allotted span of three score and ten. Each of his seven sons established his own gadi (or seats),

assuming to be the incarnation of the Krishna, and thus commenced the claim, till now allowed, to hereditary title in the priesthood for all descendants of the founder of the faith. He is now represented by a body of sixty or seventy Mahārājas, of whom the bulk are said to be grossly ignorant, indolent, and sensual.

Vallabhachārya taught that privation formed no part of sanctity, and that it was the duty of the teacher and his disciples to worship their deity not in nudity and hunger, but in costly apparel and choice food; not in solitude and mortification, but in the pleasures of society and the enjoyment of the world. . . . In accordance with these precepts the gādīs, or teachers, are always clothed in the best raiment and fed with the daintiest viands by their followers, over whom they have unlimited influence.

We may find opinions and practices not widely differing from these nearer home than Hindostan. The author of this volume briefly sums up the present character and influence of this priesthood as follows:—

The original teachers may have been well-disposed men, but their descendants have widely diverged from their courses. The infatuation of the Vaishnavas is so great that all the descendants of the Mahārājas are held from infancy in extreme veneration, and are nurtured in ignorance, indolence, and self-indulgence. They are empowered by their votaries to gratify through life every vicious propensity; and when, exhausted by vice, they pass away in premature old age, they are held by their votaries to be translated to the regions of perfect and ecstatic bliss; for, as remarked by Mr. H. Wilson, it is a peculiarly remarkable feature in this sect that the veneration paid to their gādīs is paid solely to their descent, without any reference to their individual sanctity or learning; and, although totally destitute of every pretension to even personal respectability, they nevertheless enjoy the unlimited homage of their followers.

We have not space to detail the legend of the god Krishna; but may indicate, by a brief extract from the version of "the saintly Shukadev," how fully his time must have been employed after he had retired from active participation in worldly affairs:—

Krishna discharged his duties as a householder as became him. Sire! to the sixteen thousand one hundred and eight queens of the divine Krishna Chand, whom I have before mentioned, to each of them was born ten sons and one daughter, and their offspring was numberless; I cannot describe it. But I know thus much, that there were thirty millions, eighty-eight thousand, and one hundred schools for teaching the offspring of the divine Krishna, and as many teachers. Moreover, among all the sons and grandsons of the divine Krishna Chand not one was deficient in beauty, strength, prowess, wealth, or piety; everyone was superior to the other; I am unable to describe them."

The doctrines of the Mahārāja priesthood, as developed in the course of time, will be pretty clearly shown by a few brief extracts from a volume taken as of authoritative instruction. The "Guru" is the priest:—

When Hari (god) is displeased (with any one), the Guru saves him (from the effects of Hari's displeasure). But when Guru is displeased with any one no one can save him (from the effects of the Guru's displeasure). Therefore a Vaishnava should serve the Guru with his body and money, and please the Guru.

Offerings are to be made to the Guru. There is no particular quantity of offerings (ordained). You are to make such an offering as you feel inclined to make. But you are to reflect thus:—"In this world there are many kinds of creatures; of them all we are most fortunate that we have sought the protection of the illustrious Vallabhachārya, Sri Gādājī, and their descendants, who are manifestly (incarnations of) God the excellent Being himself."

When we add that the first form their religion demands is an adoration consecrating to the first use of the god Krishna, or his representative the Mahārāja, the body in all its relations, the mind in all its power, and every possession, whether it be of worldly goods or living ties, it will be understood what enormous power is wielded by this priesthood over an ignorant, avaricious, licentious, and superstitious constituency; and how widely spread must be the demoralising and degrading effect of a belief which strikes at the very root of both public policy and private virtue.

It is scarcely necessary to say that the form of worship includes the use of idols; concerning these, however, there is no established ritual or ceremony.

Tom Raikes tells a story of a fashionable London lady, who, driving to an equally fashionable church, and being unable to find places, answered her daughter's question, "Where shall we go?" by saying, "Home, my love; we have done the civil thing." So do these miserable fanatics rush in crowds to their devotions, and call on their idols till they are tired. The public receptions in the temples are frequent, and no wonder, for it is during this ceremonial that the Mahārāja receives his oblations, and indicates those preferences which are regarded as honourable distinctions, and accepted with grateful alacrity. The methods of expressing approbation of either peculiar devoutness or physical attraction are curious enough—flinging red powder, sometimes in the form of a pill, and projecting a yellow extract made from flowers in the faces and over the persons of the elect among the worshippers, may be expressive; but it can scarcely be pleasant, and must certainly be fatiguing, seeing that during the periods of high festival there are eight daily services, with intervals of other duties between them.

The gradual but incessant encroachments of the Mahārājas on the property and privileges of their disciples appear to have excited some spirit of resistance, and the trial of a charge of libel brought against the editor of a native Bombay paper (who, we shrewdly suspect, was not far off when this book was written), on account of an article exposing some of the malpractices of the Mahārāja, having been virtually determined in favour of the defendant, we are led to hope that the light of publicity will bring to bear on a gross and immoral imposture that discredit which may lead to its early downfall and destruction.

Only a Clod. By the Author of "Lady Audley's Secret," &c. 3 vols. John Maxwell and Co.

The author of "Only a Clod" is, we believe, one of the novelists who have complained of the practice which was formerly common among reviewers, of telling the plot of a novel instead of reviewing the book. The complaint was just, as applied to a large number of reviewers; but the reason given for the complaint was a curiously mistaken one. When reviewers narrate in brief the story of a novel, they probably do so because they know a story is interesting, told with almost any degree of brevity you please, and that that particular story may be welcome to readers of the journal who may not see the book. If the story be told with fulness, and, in particular, if the wind-up be revealed, a wrong is done to the author and the publisher; but it is surely an error to suppose that it is easier to relate the story of a novel than to criticise it. We should suppose it to be much more difficult; and for this, among other reasons, that it at least involves reading the book right through, with close attention to detail; whereas a man may "review" a novel by merely looking on it, receiving at the hands of another person some account of the plot. There is, also, this to be said, that there are more ways than one of presenting to the casual reader the story of a novel; it may be done in such a way as to send him to the book for further information. However, "Only a Clod" having already appeared in the *St. James's Magazine*, and having been noticed in these columns from time to time, as that magazine appeared, we are not about either to review it minutely or to sketch the plot.

In some respects—indeed, in most respects—we think "Only a Clod" the best of the author's works. "The Doctor's Wife" was a novel of great merit; but it was deformed by secondhand writing on great topics. In "Only a Clod" we have the author working a thoroughly original vein with a power which is seldom relaxed. It is true we have some repetition of types already familiar to us in the novels from the same vigorous hand; but there is no novelist living who really presents character—we except a great poetic caricaturist like Dickens—who does not repeat types, a *dictum* we are prepared to prove, if called upon. In Maude Hilary we think we see a power of painting growth in a character, which we had not before noticed in so much strength in this author. Tredehlyn and Miss Desmond are very good; but Robert Lesley is not only well sketched, he is excellently sketched.

We have much pleasure, then, in commending "Only a Clod"

to our readers. It is full of energetic writing; it is a real story; it is quick from the first page to the last; and the movement and action throughout have a warm freedom about them, which, in spite of too much broad "handling," is very attractive even to readers who strive to resist the attraction.

The book is inscribed to Dr. and Mrs. Delepiere, in remembrance of many charming hours passed with them.

LAW AND CRIME.

In an action, tried in the Exchequer, between two foreigners—"Bouillon v. Valentin"—a very curious disclosure was made. The action itself presented but few points of interest. It was brought to recover the value of certain French railway shares, wrongfully converted to her own use by the defendant, a governess, who alleged and ultimately satisfied the jury that they had been given to her by a former proprietor, since deceased. But the remarkable point in the case was that a Mr. Hall, of the firm of Denton and Hall, attorneys for the plaintiff, admitted that certain papers, purporting to be copies of a writ issued against a person connected with the cause, were sham copies; in other words, that the writ, of which they purported to be copies, had never been issued; that these papers had been prepared at his desire, to be used in case of necessity; and had afterwards, with his "constructive authority," got into the possession of another person. There is, surely, no one conversant with the ordinary business of an attorney's office who could not, on occasion, point out evils to be apprehended from such a deviation as this from ordinary professional practice. If he had been alleged by an ordinary witness that a respectable firm of solicitors had allowed copies of a writ which had never been issued to leave their office we certainly should have doubted the evidence, unless corroborated. But here we have the confession of Mr. Hall himself. Surely this matter ought to be well investigated. Mr. Hall's explanation was that he prepared these copies as draughts. If so, how came he to allow them to leave his office? However, we find by a report of an application made to the Court, subsequently to the trial, that Mr. Hall's conduct is to be inquired into by the Incorporated Law Society.

Mr. Debenham, the surgeon, who shot and killed an unfortunate painter, has been brought before the magistrate at the Thames Police Court, and committed for trial, bail being accepted for his appearance. Some of our contemporaries, apparently assuming the exculpatory verdict of the Coroner's jury to be final, have indulged in observations against Mr. Debenham, in which he has been highly blamed for his conduct in this tragical affair. As, however, it is still a matter for judgment by a competent tribunal, we abstain from comment thereon.

Two men were tried at the Middlesex Sessions for having, with others, effected a forcible entry into the Prince of Wales Hotel, Leicester-square. Upon the trial, it appeared that notice had previously been given, on their part, to a police station in the district, and that a police sergeant had attended to watch and protect their proceedings. The Assistant Judge severely reprimanded the sergeant, and announced his intention of reporting the affair to the Police Commissioners. This matter indicates a curious anomaly in civil law. Any person effecting what the law calls forcible entry is amenable to criminal proceedings. But in the case of trespassers, the owners of property are left to the remedy of ejection, using no more force than may be actually necessary for the purpose. The police cannot interfere unless this force be employed in excess or violently resisted. Hence, in cases where, for instance, a person insists upon remaining in a house against the will of the proper occupier, the occupier must take it upon himself to turn out the intruder. Unless an actual forcible entry can be proved against the latter, the police authorities will render no active aid. The English law assumes that every tenant in possession is sufficiently powerful to turn out trespassers. But, in this case, the police appear to have stood by and authorised, by their presence, the forcible dispossession of inmates by a hired mob from without. This is quite a different matter from what we have more than once witnessed—the legal siege of a house by sheriffs' officers acting under a writ of ejection. In these cases the warrant is produced at the police station, and a force is sent, not to aid, but to protect the officers in the discharge of their duty. Then an entry is made, by sledge-hammers if need be, and the recalcitrant tenants are turned into the street with their furniture, unless they have already obeyed the warning which it is customary with the sheriffs to give a day or two previously.

A man named Reilly, a labourer, was charged at Bow-street with having threatened Baron Martin. Reilly had been plaintiff in an action of libel tried before his Lordship in July last. The action was ultimately decided against the plaintiff by the full Court, on the ground that the alleged libel was a privileged communication. Since that time the man Reilly has haunted the learned Baron. He has called frequently at his house and has persisted in following him through the streets and demanding "justice." The Baron appears to have acted with great forbearance, on one occasion even offering to the man the selection of one of two ways, which he pleased, his Lordship offering to take the other. But this kindliness was thrown away, and hence Reilly's appearance at the police court. Mr. Flowers, the magistrate, addressing the prisoner, said—

As far as I can remember, I don't think a case of this kind has ever occurred before—that a man whose trial has come on and been disposed of, being disappointed with the result, has attacked the Judge—to the honour of this country be it said. What I am going to do will at least keep you out of danger. I shall order you to be bound over in your own recognisances of £100, and to find two sureties of £50 each, to keep the peace and be of good behaviour to Baron Martin and all her Majesty's subjects for a period of twelve months. If you don't find bail you will be detained, and if you are really not in your right mind you will be taken care of.

It may be remembered that some months ago Messrs. Barry were cruelly subjected, before trial, to imprisonment under degrading regulations, bail being refused until the matter had become a public scandal. On Wednesday last the Messrs. Barry were brought up for trial on indictment charging them with making false representations in respect to certain goods which they returned as destroyed at a fire on their premises. Upon this charge the jury returned a verdict of "Not guilty." Another indictment for obtaining money under false pretences preferred on Thursday, when a verdict of "Not guilty" was likewise returned.

POLICE.

MR. THOMAS SAYERS—George Powell, aged seventeen, pianoforte-maker, was charged with stealing a coat and a telescope, the property of Tom Sayers, the champion of the prize-ring.

Mr. Lewis appeared for the defendant. Thomas Sayers said he resided at 51, Camden-street, and had kept the prisoner for the past twelve years, and had paid for apprenticing him. About four or five weeks since the prisoner left him, taking with him a coat belonging to him. On the day previous he went to where the prisoner was employed, and saw the prisoner wearing his (the prosecutor's) coat. He afterwards gave the prisoner into custody, and on searching his box found a telescope belonging to him, and which had been taken from his premises.

In cross-examination, Sayers said he could not write. The prisoner was not a nephew of his, nor was he any relation. He had not gone by the name of Sayers. He took him into his house out of good nature. He knew him by being related to his mother. He did not know his age, whether it was fifty or twenty. Could not form any idea as to his age, and could not say whether he was five or fifteen when he took him. He was living with witness's brother when he took him. Since he had left witness there had been a summons issued against him for his keep. Used to find him in clothes, but never gave him the coat in question. Would swear that for the past eighteen months he had not been wearing the coat in question, although he could not say when he saw it last. He had not seen the telescope for more than twelve months. He had not preferred this charge out of spite, although he had not a very good feeling towards him. He never saw the summons that was issued against him. The prisoner's mother does not cohabit with him. He should have given the prisoner in custody before, only he was in the country with a circus.

A police-constable said he took the prisoner into custody, and, when he told him the charge, he said, "All right, I will go with you."

Mr. Lewis said the magistrate must see that this charge was preferred out of spite, but he should call a witness who would prove that the prisoner had been wearing the coat for the last eighteen months.

A witness was called, who confirmed Mr. Lewis's statement, and added that the prisoner was highly respected by the firm by whom he was employed, and was a steady, sober, industrious young man.

The magistrate said he should discharge the prisoner, who would leave the court without a stain on his character. Mr. Lewis said he should bring an action against Sayers for false imprisonment.

When Sayers left the court he was loudly hissed and jeered.

FEROCIOUS DOGS.—A German, named Garschlag, living in Whitechapel, was summoned for keeping a ferocious dog loose and unmuzzled.

On the 29th of May last the animal rushed out of the defendant's house and bit a boy named Denis Regan, eleven years of age. The father went to the defendant and required that the dog should be killed; but this was refused and the present proceedings adopted. Medical expenses had been incurred, and it was shown that other persons had been bitten by this dog.

Mr. Cooke inflicted a fine of 10s., or seven days' imprisonment, observing that complainant could apply for compensation to another court.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

THE Government brokers have made several purchases of stock on account of the Sinking Fund, and there has been a steady influx of gold into the Bank of England, and the market for home stocks has ruled inactive. On the whole, however, prices have been well supported. Consols, for Money, have been done at 90½; Ditto, for Account, 90½; Reduced and New Three per Centa, 89½; Exchequer Bills, per 100, 90. Bank Stock has been 242 to 244.

On Thursday the Directors of the Bank of England reduced their minimum rate to 2 per cent.

Indian Securities have moved off slowly—India Stock, 214 to 216; Ditto Five per Centa, 104 to 105; Rupee Paper, 101 to 102 and 108 to 109; India Bonds, 106 to 110, per cent.

There is an abundant supply of money on offer in the general discount market. The demand for accommodation is inactive, as the amount of rates for the week commencing 10th inst.

Thirty Days' Bills 3 per cent.
Sixty Days 3 ½
Three Months 4
Six Months 4 ½
Four Months 4 ½

Short loans may be had in the Stock Exchange at 3 to 3½ per cent. Most of the Continental Exchanges are favourable, and the demand for gold for export purposes has not increased.

The market for Foreign Securities has ruled very inactive, and prices have had a drooping tendency. The leading changes in prices, which are by no means important, are confined to Greek, Mexican, and Turkish Securities. The price of the New Turkish Loan has been done at 90½. Brazilian Four-and-a-half per Centa have been 81½; Buenos Ayres Six per Centa, 91½; Ditto, Deferred, 87; Danubian Seven per Centa, 80½; Egyptian Seven per Centa, 90½; Ditto, 1864, 94; Ditto, 1865, 92; Mexican Three per Centa, 214; Ditto, 1864, 223; New Granada Two per Centa, 203 ½; Ditto, 1864, 204; Ditto, 1865, 205; Ditto, 1866, 206; Ditto, 1867, 207; Ditto, 1868, 208; Ditto, 1869, 209; Ditto, 1870, 210; Ditto, 1871, 211; Ditto, 1872, 212; Ditto, 1873, 213; Ditto, 1874, 214; Ditto, 1875, 215; Ditto, 1876, 216; Ditto, 1877, 217; Ditto, 1878, 218; Ditto, 1879, 219; Ditto, 1880, 220; Ditto, 1881, 221; Ditto, 1882, 222; Ditto, 1883, 223; Ditto, 1884, 224; Ditto, 1885, 225; Ditto, 1886, 226; Ditto, 1887, 227; Ditto, 1888, 228; Ditto, 1889, 229; Ditto, 1890, 230; Ditto, 1891, 231; Ditto, 1892, 232; Ditto, 1893, 233; Ditto, 1894, 234; Ditto, 1895, 235; Ditto, 1896, 236; Ditto, 1897, 237; Ditto, 1898, 238; Ditto, 1899, 239; Ditto, 1900, 240; Ditto, 1901, 241; Ditto, 1902, 242; Ditto, 1903, 243; 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